

ROBBIE WHEATLEY



the hope of the side — See Page 13

AUSTRALIAN

CONTROVERSIAL JUNIOR SETBACK PAGE 20

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NEW SOUTH WALES
Challenge Cup latest

VICTORIA
State League

QUEENSLAND
XXXX League News

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Season's preparations

Melbourne Croatia shows the way . . .

NSL club bites the bullet



BY GREG BLAKE

LEADING Victorian club Melbourne Croatia has embarked on an ambitious plan to become the country's highest profile club, by employing a leading marketing group to take it into the business community.

Victorian Sports Media, a company established just over two years ago, has been charged with the duty of establishing Mel-

bourne Croatia as the Quit NSL's leading club going into the 1990's.

The Victorian Sports Media group has already had a degree of success in marketing leading AFL (Aussie rules) clubs Geelong and Collingwood and, according to VSM spokesman Gary Rose, his group is looking forward to the challenge of working with soccer for the first time.

Rose admitted to some degree of trepidation in tackling the soccer market for the first

time, but said his company believed soccer has every chance of being as successful as boom sport basketball.

"Soccer definitely made the correct decision in going to summer," an enthusiastic Rose told ASW this week.

"It's important not to go up against AFL, and with no competition from other codes of football there is nothing to stop soccer

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PAGE 19



David Miller makes a clean take for Melbourne Croatia in Sunday's clash with their Sydney opposite numbers at the Croatian Sports Centre. The result was a 3-3 draw. — Photo: HECTOR CARRASCO

Constantine scoops ASF AGM pool

BY TED SIMMONS



John Constantine

AUSTRALIAN soccer has launched into a new era with the election of Sydney solicitor John Constantine to the presidency of the Australian Soccer Federation.

Constantine, at last weekend's AGM, replaced Queenslander Ian Brusasco who has been chairman for the past two years.

"There are hard de-

cisions to make and the future of soccer in this country is at stake," said Constantine.

He said he does not intend to dismantle any of the decisions made in the last two years by Brusasco, including the appointment of a Board of Commissioners, the national levy and the new QUIT sponsorship.

Victorian Vito Cilauro and South Australian Basil

Scarsella were elected deputy chairmen which effectively dismissed Brusasco from any further role in the ASF.

Constantine said his immediate concerns were the report on Australian soccer by Dr Graham Bradley and the national coaching appoint-

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 19

ACT, TASMANIA &
WEST AUSTRALIA

WIN A TRIP TO THE WORLD CUP WITH **Gillette** — P24

BY PHIL MARTIN

FORMER England and Liverpool captain Phil Thompson will be in Queensland in June.

honours, the main ones being 7 League Championship medals, 3 European Cup winners medals, 2 UEFA Cup winners medals, 3 League Cup winners

both clubs.

Assisting Phil at the clinics will be Eddie Thomson (National Director of Coaching), and former Socceroo captain John Kosmina, along with well known Old players.

Contact for Acacia Ridge Clinic Ross Wilson (07) 277 2692, and for Broadbeach Clinic Bill Roberts (07) 399 7634, Bill Webb (07) 281 6190.



Phil Thomson, Liverpool and England.

He will take part in junior coaching clinics at Acacia Ridge S.C. (Bris) 18th-22nd June, and at Broadbeach S.C. (Gold Coast) 25th-29th June.

Thompson was signed for Liverpool in 1969 by the legendary Bill Shankly, and went on to play 469 first team games for the famous Reds.

He played 42 games for England, six as captain, and played in all England's World Cup games in Spain '82.

In his playing career Thomson won many

medals, 1 F.A. Cup winners medal, 6 Charity Shield winners medals.

In 1986 he was appointed player/coach at Liverpool with the responsibility of looking after the reserves, and working closely with present manager, Kenny Dalglish.

Queensland junior soccer players will be able to meet and train with Phil during the June school holidays, and adults can meet him at Sportsmen's Dinners being held at

Lorenc carries luck with him

BY TED SIMMONS of AAP



RICHARD LORENC — Italy-bound.

REFEREE Richard Lorenc will take a Polish coin and a key ring chain in his luggage for the World Cup finals in Italy in June.

"The coin was given to me by my god-mother for good luck and it's worked so far," he said.

"I've been using it since 1973 while the chain, to which I attach my whistle, has been part of my equipment for 24 years."

Lorenc joins Tony Boskovic and Chris Bambridge as the only Australian referees to officiate at the World Cup finals.

The former school teacher, who now operates a courier service, was selected by FIFA to handle matches in the women's inaugural world championship in China two years ago and the 1987 World Youth finals in Chile.

His performance impressed officials sufficiently to gain the

women's quarter-final between Holland and Brazil and a semi-final in Chile.

"The World Cup is different though because it has more senior and experienced referees," he said.

"I'm just happy to be going there and I should get at least one first round match to referee."

"The second round onwards depends on performance."

"An Australian has not got past the first round yet because we're looked at as the minnows of the soccer world."

Lorenc has not had a break from refereeing for the last 14 months with internationals and the winter and summer National Leagues.

He is not worried about passing the fitness test in Italy but is concerned about getting burned out because of too much activity.

"I've passed all fitness tests so far and my standard has been good," he said.

Filan, Arnie and Davo leaders

BY GREG BLAKE

ST GEORGE'S remarkable goalkeeper, rookie John Filan, is set to snare a stunning double in his first full QNSL season.

Filan's first-class

club form for Saints has given him outright leadership in the 1989/90 ASW-Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre QNSL Player of the Year Award as well as the Reusch Australia goalkeeping award.

Filan leads in a tight battle from a star-studded field which includes former award leaders Graham Arnold and Alan Davidson, as well as George Jolevski and fellow goalkeepers Alex McPherson and Bobby Catlin.

After votes were tallied and averaged at the end of Round 22 Filan clung to a slender lead ahead of a class field and, with four rounds still to come, the first-ever ASW Player of the Year Award is still up for grabs.

A magnificent trophy and a cheque for \$250 will go the way of the eventual winner, compliments of Melbourne's Bayswater Indoor Soccer Centre.

Remember that a player, to be in contention for the award, must have polled votes in at least 20 QNSL matches by the end of the season.

The leader board after Round 22 was:

6.86 — J. Filan (StG)
6.77 — G. Arnold (SC)
6.75 — A. Davidson (MC)
6.62 — G. Jolevski (PM)
6.59 — T. McCulloch (Marc)
6.53 — D. Lowe (Marc)
M. Durakovic (SMH)
6.50 — A. McPherson (ME)
R. Catlin (Marc)

6.45 — C. Gosling (SO)
6.43 — T. Pezzano (Apia)
6.41 — A. Bundalo (Apia)

6.38 — G. Brown (ME)
6.37 — C. Moffitt (StG)
6.32 — S. Keogh (SGC)
P. Tsolakis (SMH)

6.31 — Z. Adzic (MC)
6.29 — G. Phillips (SO)
A. Tobin (AdC)
6.27 — R. Wheatley (Marc)

6.16 — R. Slager (AdH)
6.15 — A. Genc (ME)
B. Halliday (Apia)

6.14 — R. Zabica (AdC)
6.13 — Z. Odazakov (Black)

6.11 — P. Katholos (Marc)
6.10 — A. Marth (MC)
6.09 — G. Hannah (MC)
B. Hiern (AdH)
B. MacLaren



Alan Davidson, the master defender, in full cry for Melbourne Croatia.

6.24 — R. Hooker (SO)
D. Crainie (Woll)
6.22 — R. Ironside (SO)
6.20 — D. Skeen (Woll)
B. Milesevic (MC)
6.19 — W. Gonzalez (ME)
6.18 — A. Kidd (AdH)
M. Peterson (SMH)

(SMH)
6.06 — B. Londoos (Black)
6.05 — S. Clinch (Apia)
M. Jones (SC)
A. Vidmar (AdC)
S. Blair (SMH)
6.00 — D. Barrett (SO)
C. Veart (AdC)
P. McFadden (Woll)

Proud grandma praises Dorigo

Mrs Stankovic of Woodville Park is the proud grandmother of five grandchildren.

Last week she had a justifiable reason to demonstrate particular pride in her eldest grandson, Anthony Dorigo, who scored the winning goal to give Chelsea a 1-0 Zenith Cup final success over Middlesbrough at Wembley Stadium.

It was Dorigo's first final at Wembley and the goal, from a free kick, provided the defender with a career highlight.

Mrs Stankovic said she first heard of her grandson's success on the radio.

Dorigo was back at Wembley last Wednes-

day playing for England against Brazil in a World Cup warm-up match.

Born in Melbourne, Dorigo was brought to Adelaide as an infant by his parents and played junior soccer with Polonia, Cumberland, Birkalla and Adelaide City.

Before accepting an apprenticeship with Aston Villa, Dorigo played one senior game with Adelaide City when he was 15 — a Fairmont Cup game against Hellas.

He became the first Australian-born player to captain the England Youth team two seasons ago.

Last season he progressed to Bobby Robson's senior World Cup squad and made his full international



TONY DORIGO

debut for England in a friendly against Yugoslavia seven weeks ago.

— courtesy ALLAN CRISP of the ADELAIDE ADVERTISER

AUSTRALIAN

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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Leadership at stake

Marconi-Adcity

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

WITH just three rounds remaining the picture at the top and bottom of the QUIT National Soccer League is still clouded with only Marconi safe for the top five while Adelaide Hellas and Sunshine will fight it out for second last place.

On Sunday, Marconi's reputation as top dog goes on the line when they play host to 'Italian rivals' Adelaide City.

First and second on the ladder, the match could well decide the inaugural summer season minor premier and Bossley Park should be bursting at the seams for the occasion.

Doubts over whether Marconi could retain their championship for the third year have been put to rest after recently stringing two important wins together.

Tom McCulloch, missing his partner in crime Ian Gray through injury, has been the shining light for the leaders with three important goals in the past two games to take his tally to eight while Robbie Wheatley continues to control the back four in dominant fashion.

Adelaide City on the other hand have lost just once in their last 15, and up front Carl Veart and Steve Maxwell continue to stick away the chances.

Both City and Marconi dominate their opponents through the middle while pushing defenders down the flanks into attack. With City at full strength and Gray missing from Marconi's line up, the visitors could upset the leaders despite playing away from home.

Fellow Adelaide side Hellas face a do or die effort at Hindmarsh on Friday when Sydney Croatia come to town.

Hellas, with a crucial clash against Sunshine next week, must take both points from a revived Croatia or face an impossible task of surviving the drop to the State League.

Following a troublesome season out Croatia way, Tony Vrzina's side will be keen to overhaul Melita for seventh place while hoping to snuff out Hellas' chances of survival at the same time.

Last week, Sydney Croatia showed great character in holding

the thoroughbred Melbourne Croatia and David Seal continues to impress, knocking in his 12th goal of the season.

Deadly Seal

Hellas must keep an eye on the deadly Seal and the creative Manis Lamond and Graham Arnold if they are to get on top of the Sydney side.

At best Hellas could be expected to struggle for a draw which could prove costly prior to the Sunshine showdown the following week.

South Melbourne could cement their place in the top three when they visit Brandon Park to take on the unpredictable Wollongong.

Last week Souths scrambled past the desperate Adelaide Hellas to stretch their unbeaten run to seven matches while Peter Tsolakis took his tally to 11 for the season with the only goal.

Of the top six, South Melbourne have the easiest run home to the finals and a win at the Wolves will assure the Puskas-coached side a place in the semis.

Wollongong recently lost Ray Vhetstra for the season but Randell Easthorpe should return from suspension and although only a remarkable finish to the season could see the Wolves relegated, they should be outclassed by Souths on Sunday.

Two sides with similar poor runs in recent weeks, Blacktown and APIA clash at the Gabbie on Saturday.

The doomed Demons have managed just one win in their last seven while Apia with only two wins from eight outings hardly look finalist material.

Sorely missing the injury prone Rod Brown, Apia have managed just three goals in their last four games and badly need to put away their chances as the season moves swiftly towards the finals.

These are troubled times for Apia coach Manfred Schaefer as he tries to rally his troops for the final charge but along with a growing injury toll, Jason van Blerk, Andy Stankovic and Mark Brown will miss the match with Blacktown through suspension.

With Sydney Olympic snapping at their heels, Apia must win this one with matches to come against Marconi and Melbourne



Adelaide City is right in the hunt for NSL honours. Here Tony Vidmar is seen in action at Hindmarsh Stadium — Photo: JANUSZ KAMMA.

Croatia before the semis.

Blacktown last beat Apia five years ago and have failed to win at the Gabbie in the six matches played between the two sides.

Although Apia thrashed the Demons 5-1 in Round 11 a different looking side will take the park on Saturday but the visitors should be just good enough to sneak the points.

The troubled Sunshine, on course for a relegation battle with Adelaide Hellas, next week take on the free scoring Melbourne Croatia at Somers St on Sunday.

Miracle needed

Only a miracle could stop the home side from demolishing Sunshine, who have lost four in a row without finding the net and conceding 10 goals in the process.

Sunshine must shackle the home side's brilliant midfielder Branko Milosevic and diminutive striker Zeljko Adzic, who added two more to his tally last week and is once again among the

leading scorers.

George have missed the services of the injured Ossie Latif, Dave Clarkson and Craig Foster in recent weeks and although desperate for survival, appear to be no match for Francis Awaritefe and company.

Sydney Olympic, with a relatively simple draw for the remainder of the season, this week come up against the faltering Preston.

With just three points from their last 10 matches, the behind-the-scenes turmoil and uncertainty for players and coaches has spilled over to the playing area at Preston.

True, Preston have not had any luck with injuries to key players this season but their performances recently have lacked bite and last week went down to a gallant but unimpressive St George.

At home, Olympic lost their unbeaten record a fortnight ago and have the best defensive record on their home patch allowing a miserly seven goals from 11 matches.

Preston on the other

hand have one of the worst away records of any side with just four points which in the long run has cost the Melbourne side a place in the finals.

Following two wins on the trot, St George, now safe from relegation, visit the impressive Melita on Sunday, kicking off at 7.00pm.

Raul Blanco's Eagles are proving difficult to knock over at home, winning six of their last seven at Melita Stadium while the Saints last away match saw Frank Arok's side thrash Wollongong 6-0.

Greg Brown added his 13th goal of the season in last week's 2-0 win over Wollongong while his partner up front, Marshall Soper again found the net but may miss the match against the Saints after suffering a head injury late in the game.

Melita have never beaten St George but look to have too much class and should continue their winning way.

Mariani's big test



BERTI Mariani, the youngest coach in the NSL and sitting on a possible hat-trick of championships, sees Sunday's clash with Adelaide City at Marconi Stadium as one of the biggest hurdles in front of him.

Marconi has already met Adelaide City twice this season for two victories.

The first clash was at the start of the season for the inaugural Charity Cup which Marconi snapped up 1-0 immediately after their return from a pre-season tour of Czechoslovakia.

In round one in Adelaide it was a topsy turvy match that saw Adcity streak ahead to a 2-0 lead before Marconi pegged them back to 2-2 and finally scrambled

over the top to take the match 3-2.

Mariani told ASW last night: "We have no suspensions nor injuries at this stage but Adelaide City is going to give us a tough time."

"In fact you could say that this Sunday will be a preview as to who will win the minor championship."

Last Sunday Marconi wiped out Sunshine George Cross 2-0 with both goals being scored by star midfielder, Tommy McCulloch.

Mariani hopes to work out a plan to disconnect Adelaide City's strength which lies in their technical midfield play.

Adrian Santrac, Sergio Melita, Joe Mullen and Aurilio Vidmar have stitched up a string of victories for the South Australians.

— JOHN ECONOMOS

MARCONI v ADELAIDE CITY



AT THE
MARCONI STADIUM
SUNDAY
KICK-OFF 3PM



YOUTH LEAGUE
5PM



TOM McCULLOCH



SERGIO MELTA



AN AFTERNOON OF FAMILY
ENTERTAINMENT — PRIZES, GIVE AWAYS
AND CELEBRITY GAME

BRESCIA FURNITURE

Apia holds Olympic at bay

BY TED SIMMONS

ONE split second reflex dive by keeper Clint Gosling kept Sydney Olympic in the chase for a top five playoff place after a bruising 1-1 draw with Apia Leichhardt at Lambert Park.

Apia retained its two point advantage over Olympic with three rounds remaining but has problems for the clash against Blacktown next week.

Bookings by referee Chris Bambridge eliminated Mark Brown, Jason van Blerk and Andy Stankovic with excessive points and coach Manfred Schaefer will be closely studying the form of his reserves.

A rocketing header by John McQuarrie in the 17th minute put Apia in front after a delightfully weighted free kick from Alex Bundalo.

Midfielder Gary Phillips, who was outstanding for Olympic, levelled the score in the 42nd minute when his first attempt was blocked by the feet of keeper Pezzano but he neatly slotted away the rebound.

Olympic continued to force its way into the Apia penalty area through Grant Lee and Steve Refenes on the wings but the attacks foundered against the rock-solid Apia back-line.

Bruce Halliday, who had blocked a first half shot off the line, gave his usual cool display while Graham Jennings blotted Abbas Saad out of the play.

Apia ran into some early second half problems when their rhythm faltered and the players seemed to lose concentration and control of the midfield. But they picked up when Darren Stewart lofted a 35m lob goalwards and the ball hit the top of the upright and bounced back.

Apia should have had the winner in the 67th minute when McQuarrie was unmarked in the box and blasted a shot from 10m only to see the goal denied by the diving Gosling.

Gosling was again in action 12 minutes later when he dived at the feet of Stewart who had been put through once again by schemer Alex Bundalo.

Olympic had most of

the territorial play but were caught square at times by the speedy Apia breakaways.

Two chances went begging for Olympic in the final two minutes — an open goal was missed by Refenes and Phillips sent a 35m sizzler over the bar.

Schaefer said the Apia tactics had restricted Olympic to long range shots and the Phillips goal came from the only defensive mistake when Mark Brown failed to head the ball clear.

"We dominated the game but couldn't put away any chances. We'll have to do it tough for the last three games but I think we can still make the playoffs," said Olympic coach Mick Hickman.

APIA LEICHHARDT: Pezzano 7, Brown 6 (Theodorakopoulos 80m), Jennings 6, Stankovic 6, Halliday 7, Clinch 6, McQuarrie 7, Murray 6, Stewart 7, Bundalo 6, Van Blerk 6.

SYDNEY OLYMPIC: Gosling 7, Barrett 6, Georgakidis 6, Hooker 5, Plataniotis 6, Phillips 6, Lee 7, Parlino 6, Saad 6 (Edwards 85m), Ironside 6, Refenes 7.

SCORERS: McQuarrie 17m for Apia, Phillips 42m for Olympic.

YELLOW CARDS: Stankovic 6m, Brown 32m, Van Blerk 35m, Murray 71m for Apia, Georgakidis 39m, Barrett 50m for Olympic.

REFEREE: C Bambridge 8

CROWD: 7262

Saints beating relegation trap

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

TWO second half goals by St George gave them a 2-1 win over a luckless visiting Preston at the St George Stadium and at the same time edged them further away from the relegation zone.

Saints' goals came from their newly signed South American striker, Osvaldo El Ali (66m) and by industrious midfielder, Andy Harper (79m).

Preston, who took the lead in the 32nd minute through a fabulous 25 metre bomb from the right by star midfielder, Kire Temcev, held control for most of the first half, mainly due to the efforts of midfielder, Zoran Tasevski.

But Preston's youthful coach, Lube Jancev, reluctantly replaced Tasevski at half time because of injury and brought on the semi-fit Soccerroo Oscar Crino.

Crino was able to last only 24 minutes before breaking down and being replaced by Joe Markovac. Crino's distribution was sadly missed by the Victorians.

Preston was denied further goals in the second half by a super display between the posts by St George goalkeeper, John Filan. One save came when a delicately chipped shot from Andrew Zinni was tipped over the top by the back-peddalling Filan.

St George's hard working and rugged midfielder Craig Moffitt, gained little joy from the match when he headed a 55th minute Andy Koczka cross into the hands of Preston keeper, Phil Traianedes and nine minutes later headed another cross just over the woodwork.

Moffitt however was not discouraged and forged his way down the left to knock in a great flat cross for the alert Argentinian El Ali to stab into the net from

close-range. This was El Ali's second goal since joining St George last week.

Midfielder Andy Harper hit Saints into a 2-1 lead 11 minutes from fulltime, driving a low 12 metre shot into the target.

It was Harper's fourth goal in his last two outings, adding to the hat-trick he nailed last week in St George's 6-0 annihilation of Wollongong City.

Almost right on fulltime, St George captain and sweeper Koczka playing a great match, broke clear and penetrated deep into Preston's box.

But the classy free-back was denied a goal as his close-range shot was brilliantly deflected by Traianedes' desperately outstretched boot.

Jancev, Preston's coach, remarked after the match: "Frank Arok's St George played well in the second half but after we lost Zoran Tasevski at half-time we also lost control of the midfield."

Arok, St George's coach, was still wary in his post match comment.

"It is still mathematically possible for us to be relegated but I feel we are safe now. We played too many long balls in the first half but created plenty of chances in the second from which, as usual, we scored from only a third of them. This is the first time this season we have won two matches successively."

ST GEORGE: Filan 6; Green 6, Dean 6, O'Shea 7, Koczka 8; Harper 7, Moffitt 7, Knight 6 (Spanoudakis 65m); Ali (Bingley 33m) 6, Kralovic 7, El Ali 7.

PRESTON: Traianedes 6; Runje 5, Piculovski 5, Jackson 7, Jolevski 6; Woodall 5, Petrov 5, Tasevski 7 (Crino 46th, replaced by J. Markovac 70m), Temcev 7; R. Markovac 6, Zinni 6.

SCORERS: El Ali 66m, Harper 79m for St George and Temcev 32m for Preston.

YELLOW CARDS: El Ali 41m, for St George and Petrov 55m for Preston.

REFEREE: P. Spliers 9

CROWD: 2,156.

Quit National League Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi	23	13	6	4	44	21	32
Adelaide City	23	12	7	4	37	20	31
South Melbourne	23	13	5	5	34	20	31
Melbourne Croatia	23	12	6	5	46	26	30
Apia Leichhardt	23	10	9	4	31	20	29
Sydney Olympic	23	11	5	7	35	22	27
Melita Eagles	23	9	5	9	23	24	23
Sydney Croatia	23	8	6	9	34	36	22
Preston Make	23	8	4	11	27	29	20
St George	23	6	7	10	30	35	19
Wollongong City	23	7	4	12	26	42	18
Sunshine GC	23	6	4	13	23	42	16
Adelaide Hellas	23	5	3	15	20	51	13
Blacktown City	23	4	3	16	25	47	11

Results

MELITA EAGLES 2 (Soper, Brown) WOLLONGONG 0 at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 2196.
APIA LEICHHARDT 1 (McQuarrie) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 1 (Phillips) at Lambert Park. Crowd: 7282.
SYDNEY CROATIA 3 (Jurin, Jones, Seal) MELB. CROATIA 3 (Marth Adzic 2) at Croatian Sports Centre. Crowd: 4859.
SUNSHINE 0 MARCONI 2 (McCulloch 2) at Skinner Reserve. Crowd: 828.
ST GEORGE 2 (El Ali, Harper) PRESTON MAK. 1 (Temcev) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 2156.
SOUTH MELBOURNE 1 (Tsolakis) ADELAIDE HELLAS 0 at Middle Park. Crowd: 2218.
ADELAIDE CITY 3 (Maxwell, Veart, Villani) BLACKTOWN CITY 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 4012.

Crowds

ROUND 23: 23,551
AVERAGE PER GAME: 3,364
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 484,571

Top Scorers

Greg Brown	(Melita Eagles)	13
David Seal	(Sydney Croatia)	12
Zlatko Nastevski	(Marconi)	11
Zeljko Adzic	(Melbourne Croatia)	11
Peter Tsolakis	(South Melbourne)	11
Tony Kralovic	(St George)	11
Abbas Saad	(Sydney Olympic)	11

Team of Round 23

T. Franken (Sydney Croatia)
A. Davidson (Melbourne Croatia)
A. Koczka (St George)
R. Wheatley (Marconi)
P. Donnelly (Melb Croatia)
T. Kupresak (Sydney Croatia)
T. McCulloch (Marconi)
A. Santrac (Adelaide City)
D. Stewart (Apia Leichhardt)
S. Knight (St George)
S. Refenes (Sydney Olympic)

Player of Round 23

T. Franken (Sydney Croatia)



Graham Arnold (Sydney Croatia) at right raises his arm to make an emphatic claim in the Melbourne Croatia clash at Edensor Park on Sunday.

Adelaide cruises in

BY ALAN CLARK

ADELAIDE City eased towards a League-topping showdown with Marconi on Saturday with a comfortable 3-0 win against Blacktown at Hindmarsh.

The home side never were stretched in victory.

With Zarko Odzakovic immense in probably his last appearance at Hindmarsh, Blacktown had stretches of play when they had territorial advantage but Soccerroo Robert Zabica never was threatened in the City goal.

Adelaide clinched the points with three 'oh so easily' taken goals.

Blacktown claimed Steve Maxwell was offside in 10 minutes when he picked the eyes

out of a good Adrian Santrac and Joe Mullen combination to drill a shot past Steve Mautone.

Adelaide, without showing all its class, never then were under pressure and sealed victory with two more goals in the last 26 minutes.

Young Carl Veart broke a scoring drought by rising uncontested to head home a Santrac corner in 64 minutes.

Then Charley Villani, on as a substitute in his return from injury, sent home a sizzling 25 metre drive in 79 minutes to boost the City goal tally.

Blacktown looked organised and controlled but were let down by poor distribution and a lack of punch up front.

Their cause was not

helped with the loss of Zlatko Arambasic in the second-half when he reopened an old leg wound.

City was delighted with the return to form of key midfielder Adrian Santrac and irrepressible Joe Mullen, who was involved in a few earnest words with Soccerroo Charlie Yankos near the end.

"The clash with Marconi will show if we are made of cheese or of rock from the Adelaide Hills," said Matic after City's comfortable 3-0 win.

"They are first and we are second. We can avoid meeting them, so this will see how we go. It will show what we are made of."

Matic was not enamoured by desperate Blacktown's approach.

"They made it very

difficult with so many people behind the ball. They just did not want to play," said Matic.

"I'm please we helped our goal difference, too. That has helped set us up for this week."

"We missed the influence of Viddie. But I'm amazed at the amount of work Sergio (Melita) put in. There was a lot of individual effort and the two points were what counts."

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 6, Shalabaz 6 (Villani 77m), Tobin 6, Ivanovic 6, Frounders 7, Melita 6, Santrac 7, Veart 6 (Talladira 84m), Mullen 7, Maxwell 6, T. Vidmar 6.

BLACKTOWN: Mautone 6, Carter 7, Northam 6, Yankos 6, Major 5, Bennett 6, Gibson 6, McKinna 6, Odzakovic 7 (Henderson 82m), Arambasic 6 (Ferguson 68m), Gunning 6.

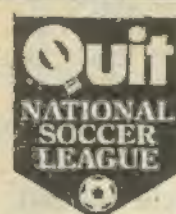
GOALSCORERS: Maxwell 10m, Veart 64m, Villani 79m for City.

YELLOW CARDS: Bennett 2m for Blacktown.

REFEREE: John Fraser Vic 6.

CROWD: 3800 approx.

Weekend fixtures



ROUND 24

FRIDAY, APRIL 6	
ADELAIDE HELLAS v SYDNEY CROATIA	Hindmarsh Stadium 8pm
SATURDAY, APRIL 7	
BLACKTOWN CITY v APIA L'HARDT	Gabbie Stadium 7pm
SUNDAY, APRIL 8	
WOLLONGONG CITY v SOUTH MELBOURNE	Brandon Park 3pm
MARCONI v ADELAIDE CITY	Marconi Stadium 3pm
MELBOURNE CROATIA v SUNSHINE GC	Somers St 3pm
SYDNEY OLYMPIC v PRESTON MAKEDONIA	St George Stadium 3pm
MELITA EAGLES v ST GEORGE	Melita Stadium 7pm

Franken heroics set the Seal against Melbourne Croatia

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

AFTER dropping a point from a game they should have won the previous week, title contenders Melbourne Croatia again shot themselves in the foot on Sunday by needlessly giving away an injury time penalty which allowed Sydney Croatia to get out of jail with a 3-3 draw at Edensor Park.

Classy midfielder Zeljko Adzic had earlier lifted his side to a deserved 3-2 lead with two goals in nine minutes in the last quarter of an hour.

He then looked on in disbelief as a harmless looking cross was handled inside the penalty area in the 92nd minute, to give striker David Seal a last ditch opportunity to level the score.

Seal could have easily snatched a hat trick in a sparkling first half, which saw him fritter away three good chances.

He found himself free in the box after only two minutes but sent his attempt wide of the upright, had a power header cleared off the line in the 20th then forced a desperate save from keeper David Miller two minutes later with another strong header.

Melbourne Croatia had taken an early lead in the 7th minute from a well constructed move started deep inside their own half.

Alan Davidson found Francis Awaritefe wide on the left and after shaking off a

strong challenge by Tony Popovic, sent an overlapping Andrew Marth racing up the touch line before cutting inside and slotting his low shot wide of keeper Tony Franken.

Although Sydney Croatia were nowhere near as attractive in their build ups, they pressured their opponents with a more direct brand of football which produced an equaliser ten minutes before the break.

Midfielder Mark Jones chimed into the attack and his cross from the left was misjudged by Miller for Zeljko Jurin to head home.

If the visitors were surprised at losing their lead, they were absolutely stunned just before half time when Jones collected the ball outside the box, beat two challenges and blasted a rising shot into the roof of the net to give the underdogs a shock 2-1 half time lead.

The entire second half was mostly a matter of Melbourne Croatia bombarding a courageous Sydney Croatia defence in which a superb Franken was called upon to perform heroics on numerous occasions to deny them.

With only 15 minutes remaining and facing a seemingly unbeatable keeper, Adzic finally conjured up the equaliser from a Branko Milosevic corner kick on which he pounced, controlled with one touch and sent a vicious low drive whistling past Franken.

But a draw was not



When you are Francis Awaritefe you have to face the fact that a policeman will be there to escort you on the park. Pic: HECTOR CARRASCO.

good enough for the little midfielder.

He latched on to a short pass from Davidson in the 84th minute, powered his way past two defenders and fired in what looked certain to be the winner.

That cruel and totally unnecessary late penalty however robbed Melbourne Croatia of a crucial victory which on their second half performance, they thoroughly

deserved.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken 8, Popovic 6, Grebevski 6, Babic 6, Jones 7 (sub Bolton 66m), Kupresak 7, Rlooy 6, French 5, Arnold 6, Seal 6, Jurin 6 (sub Pervan 71m).

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 6, Davidson 7, Marth 6, Donnelly 6, Hannah 7, Talajic 6, Milosevic 6, Markovski 5 (sub Calota 43m, 6), Kelic 6 (sub Selemidis 88m), Adzic 8, Awaritefe 6.

GOALS: Marth 7m, Adzic 75m, 84m (M. Croatia), Jurin 35m, Jones 43m, Seal pen. 92m (Sydney Croatia).

YELLOW CARDS: Miller 19m, Awaritefe 29m (Melb. Croatia), Jones 55m, Grbevski 67m (Sydney Croatia). REFEREE: J. Rossis 6. CROWD: 4858.

No classic at Middle Park

BY JOHN MANGAN

SOUTH Melbourne Hellas edged into third place on the table with a dour but ultimately effective performance beating Adelaide Hellas 1-0 at Middle Park on Sunday.

The game had the ingredients for a classic pitting the two Greek rivals both desperate for points, as one fought relegation while the other battled for top place on the ladder.

The match also saw the return of Brian Garvey to South Melbourne Hellas. Now coaching the Adelaide team, he was replaced at South Melbourne by Ferenc Puskas.

Garvey brought with him another former South Melbourne figure, midfielder Richard Miranda.

But instead of a classic, fans were treated to an unimaginative display by the home team and a stodgy defensive performance by

the visitors.

After the game South Melbourne coach Puskas attributed his side's poor performance to Adelaide's hard tackling.

Miranda was one of the main offenders with a string of clumsy challenges on Paul Wade and Paul Trimboli which went unnoticed by referee John Santa Isabel.

South Melbourne found the gap in the visitors' defence in the 40th minute when Danny Wright, playing in the midfield, worked the ball to David Healy on the right.

The young fullback floated a centre across the goal to Peter Tsolakis, who slammed it into the net notching his 11th goal for the season.

The visitors looked most dangerous in the last fifteen minutes of the game as the former Morwell Falcons striker Billy Wright found space on the left side but was isolated from

his team-mates and unable to threaten goal.

South Melbourne fans were lamenting during the game that this was the worst they'd seen their team play in five years — an exaggeration perhaps — but still the team must lift itself if it is to have any success in the finals.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: MacLaren 7, Healy 6, Postecoglou 5, Durakovic 6, Balir 6, Wade 5, Talladros 5 (Palatsides 86th), Petersen 5, Trimboli 5, Wright 5, Tsolakis 5.

ADELAIDE HELLAS: Parkes 5, Watkin 5, Doak 6, Hiern 6, Slager 6, Miranda 4 (Reynolds 82m), Politis 4 (Brazzale 73m), Kidd 5, Blair 5, Wright 5, Mills 4.

REFEREE: John Santa Isabel 4. CROWD: 3000.

OPTIMISM!

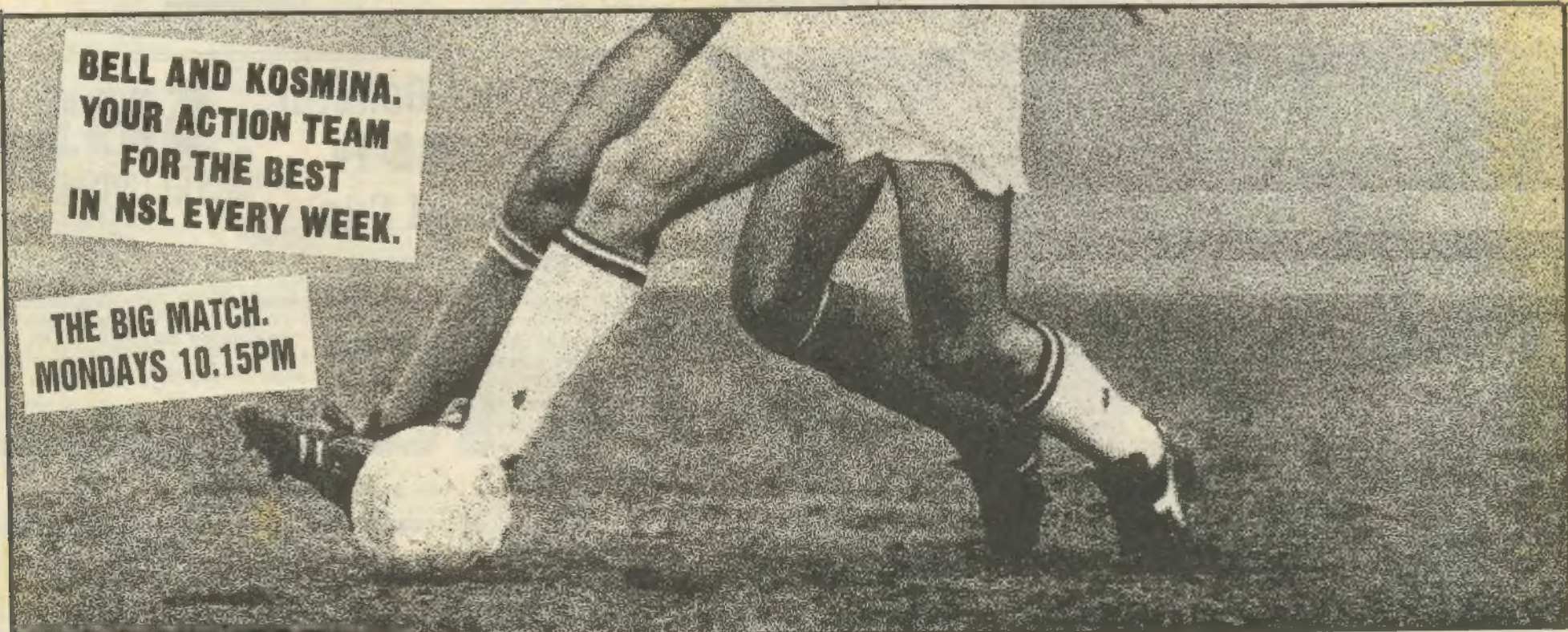
The award for the most optimistic phone call of the week goes to the anonymous South Melbourne Hellas fan who rang the Middle Park pressbox during the game against Adelaide Hellas and asked to speak to Ferenc Puskas.



Sydney Croatia's Mark Jones and Graham Arnold with two Melbourne opponents — Photo by Hector Carrasco.

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AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY — APRIL 4, 1990 5



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Brodnik harnessed by Melita defence

BY PHIL MURPHY

MELITA coach Raul Blanco was far from impressed with his team's "stop-start" performance even though they beat Wollongong City 2-0 at Melita Stadium on Sunday.

"We gave the indication we had done enough once we scored in the first half," was Blanco's comment.

After leading 1-0 at halftime through a goal from Marshall Soper, Melita seemed content to sit back and maintain their lead.

Had Wollongong been able to take advantage of some adventurous midfield play Melita would have paid the penalty in the second half.

Danny Crainie and Jerry Murphy stamped their class on the second half and Wollongong generally dominated proceedings.

Unfortunately for Wolves coach David Ratcliffe, striker Pat Brodnik was effectively harnessed by the Melita defence in which Washington Gonzalez and Alfredo Barrios were always cool under fire.

Brodnik, who scored six goals against West Adelaide just 14 days earlier, had only one real scoring chance and that came in the last few minutes but he headed wide of an open goal off a Crainie cross.

Marshall Soper gave Melita the lead they deserved after 33 minutes, heading in a deep cross from fullback Greg Dickinson.

Goalkeeper George Bouhoutsos hesitated coming off his line and Soper got the vital touch.

It was just reward for Melita as they had held a big territorial advantage to that stage.

Greg Brown didn't make it 2-0 until six minutes from the end, ironically after Wollongong had been awarded a free kick on half-way.

The kick went to Dickinson, who sent it straight back downfield to Brown who won a race for possession with Jock Morlando, drew Bouhoutsos and slipped the ball home.

Wollongong coach David Ratcliffe said his depleted side did well in the second half but weren't hungry enough. "We played all the football after halftime but you have to shoot to get goals," Ratcliffe said.

Ratcliffe praised youngster Richard Lloyd, who was deputising for centre-half Ray Vlietstra who is out for the season with a broken leg.

Aytec Gene performed well for the home team and Wollongong at times struggled



to contain his surges from midfield.

Referee John McConnell had his work cut out on a muddy surface and held up his yellow card six times. Wollongong finished ahead 4-2 in that department.

PARRAMATTA MELITA: McPherson, Dickinson, Callinan 5, Barrios 6, Gonzalez 7, Mason 6, Gimenez 4, Falce 4 (Cerro 58), Soper 6 (O'Donnell 74), Gene 7, Brown 6.

WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoutsos 4, Skeen 6, McEvoy 5, Morlando 5, Lloyd 7, Ratcliffe 5, Murphy 6, O'Neill 5, Bradnik 4, Crainie 8, McFadden 6.

YELLOW CARDS: Skeen 27, McEvoy 43, O'Neill 67, Morlando 88, Barrios 38, Mason 81.

REFEREE: John McConnell 7.
CROWD: 2196.

Sweat just brings tears for Sunshine

BY GREG BLAKE

STOPPING the Marconi juggernaut's quest for a third successive title is no job for the inexperienced or the faint of heart.

Sunshine George Cross had plenty of the latter as it tackled the Sydney powerhouse at Skinner Reserve on Sunday but, finding itself light on for class and experience, the result had a certain inevitability about it.

There is nothing of genius to be found in a floodtide of sweat, and that is all Sunshine could provide as it fell 2-0 to the league leader.

Heart alone is not enough against as clinical and sophisticated a team as Marconi most certainly is, and the contrast between the two sides was no more apparent than in front of goals where Marconi, as cool and calm as you wish, took its chances with ruthless efficiency.

In contrast George Cross looked decidedly shaky and at times overawed when chances came its way and, more often than not, the home side managed to play its way into trouble by hesitating rather than forcing the pace.

Any thoughts of an upset were put to bed as early as the sixth minute when Paul Okon's first-time cut-

back was met crisply on the volley by Tommy McCulloch and his shot flew past a helpless Sean Keogh.

Ernie Tapai might have boasted a hat-trick had he not spoiled an otherwise fine display with a discouraging example of the goal-shyness which plagued the Sunshine team.

Tapai's malaise was no doubt bought on by an early miss as he shot in the Marconi crossbar after a Lorenz Kindtner corner was headed into his path by Paul Foster.

It was clear the miss knocked the wind from the Sunshine sails for despite some encouraging lead-up work, the finishing touches were less than impressive and eagerly eaten up by a Marconi defence superbly marshalled by the irrefragable Robbie Wheatley.

Marconi fed off the unforced errors and made few in exchange to comfortably see out the half but the league top-dog was called on to see out a spirited George Cross revival just after half time before wrapping up the points.

Bob Catlin brilliantly turned a 55th minute Tapai free kick over the bar and five minutes later the burly keeper was called on to dive bravely at Foster's feet to stem the tide.

Sunshine, as they



Sean Keogh (Sunshine GC)

say, had given its best shot and failed and the way was left open for Marconi to over-run the gallant home side.

McCulloch put his stamp on proceedings with a second goal in the 67th minute, his second effort as deadly as number one as he ran on to David Lowe's deftly chipped through ball and clipped his final effort past Keogh without breaking stride.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS: Keogh 6, Fabrizio 6, Roodhouse 6, Katsakidis 6, Waddell 6, Alevissos 5 (Cattermole 80), Kindtner 6, Tapai 7, Muscat 6, P. Foster 4, Hasler 5.

MARCONI: Catlin 7, van Egmond 6, Colucci 6, Calderan 7, Wheatley 8, Okon 7, McCulloch 8, Katholos 5 (Gomez HT — 5), Colliguri 5 (Glavovic 65), Lowe 6, de Jong 6.

GOALS: McCulloch 6m for 67m for Marconi.

YELLOW CARDS: Wheatley 9m, Colliguri 40m, Colucci 53m, Glavovic 81m for Marconi.

REFEREE: G. Power 5.
CROWD: 1220.

"RL tops injury compo table"

RUGBY League attracted more compensation payouts for serious injuries last year than all other sports combined, according to a report before the State Government.

Some of the injuries suffered by football players including spinal cord damage, brain damage, loss of spleen, loss of kidney and loss of the use of

limbs.

The NSW Sporting Injuries Committee paid out more than \$620,000 in compensation to injured sportsmen last year.

In a report to the Government, the committee said it had awarded 17 payouts — 10 of them for injuries incurred in rugby league games.

However, NSW rugby league spokesman Paul Broughton insisted that the game was no more dangerous than other body con-

tact sports.

He said about 80,000 rugby league players were covered by the insurance scheme — far more than any other sport — so it was inevitable that more claims would be made.

Deaths

He said that several payouts had been made for deaths which were caused by heart attacks rather than any incident in the game.

At least 70 new accident cases were reported to the committee last year and will be considered as evidence becomes available.

There were also four claims submitted from school children under



the committee's supplementary scheme.

One boy suffered brain damage in an inter-school rugby league match.

[This article comes by courtesy of Sydney Telegraph of Monday March 19. Parents will, of course, read into it what they will — Ed.]



Liverpool's 3-2 winner comes from Ian Rush as Southampton's Kevin Moore grimaces.

Legal and General Joins SBS-TV For World Cup

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

MAJOR insurance and investment group Legal and General has linked up with SBS-TV for the forthcoming World Cup live coverage of all matches direct from Italy.

This was announced by Super Soccer Channel boss, Brian Johns.

"Legal and General will be the major sponsor of our exclusive World Cup coverage later this year.

"It will have the naming rights to our coverage, and we are delighted that they have joined up with us."

The company's managing director, Trevor Matthews, stated: "We see it as a unique opportunity to achieve distinctive and original awareness of Legal and General."

The Legal and General Assurance Company joins Cathy Pacific, an associated sponsor of SBS-TV, for the massive, month-long World Cup telecast.

Mr Johns disclosed the remarkable statistic that the World Cup will be watched around the globe by an audience estimated at some 17 billion people, well ahead of the last Olympic Games from Korea

SBS TELEVISION

in 1988, which was seen by 9.5 billion.

Mr Johns also added: "Between June 8th and July 9th this year, SBS-TV will screen all 52 matches live from Italy."

"We are one of the few TV networks in the world to be sending our own commentary and presentation team over there."

"The 1990 World Cup is the biggest programme exercise ever attempted by SBS."

"With the assistance of a company such as Legal and General, we will be able to guarantee Australians one of the best coverages of this prestigious sporting event anywhere in the world."

SOCCER POOLS



THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST WEEK 245 SAT 7 APRIL

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHELSEA	LUTON	1
	COVENTRY	DERBY	2
	MILLWALL	MAN. CITY	3
	NOTTINGHAM F.	TOTTENHAM	4
	SHEFF. WED.	SOUTHAMPTON	5
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	BLACKBURN	PLYMOUTH	6
	BOURNEMOUTH	SWINDON	7
	LEEDS	BRADFORD C.	8
	LEICESTER	BARNLEY	9
	OXFORD UTD.	WEST HAM	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	PORTSMOUTH	SHEFFIELD UTD.	11
	PORT VALE	NEWCASTLE	12
	SUNDERLAND	STOKE	13
	WATFORD	IPSWICH	14
	WEST BROM.	MIDDLESBRO	15
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	BIRMINGHAM	BURY	16
	BLACKPOOL	ROTHERHAM	17
	BOLTON	PRESTON	18
	BRENTFORD	NOTTS. C.	19
	BRISTOL R.	CHESTER	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	LEYTON O.	CARDIFF	21
	MANSFIELD	READING	22
	NORTHAMPTON	FULHAM	23
	SHREWSBURY	HUDDERSFIELD	24
	SWANSEA	WALSALL	25
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	WIGAN A.	BRISTOL C.	26
	DONCASTER	YORK	27
	EXETER	STOCKPORT	28
	GILLINGHAM	TORQUAY	29
	HALIFAX	GRIMSBY	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	HARTLEPOOL	CARLISLE	31
	LINCOLN	HEREFORD	32
	PETERBORO	COLCHESTER	33
	SCARBORO	ROCHDALE	34
	SCUNTHORPE	CAMBRIDGE U.	35
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	SOUTHEND	CHESTERFIELD	36
	WREXHAM	MAIDSTONE	37
	ALVECHURCH	RUGBY	38
	ASHFORD	CAMBRIDGE C.	39
	BURTON A.	GLOUCESTER	40

RESERVE MATCHES

SCOTTISH B&Q DIVISION 1	BURTON A.	GLOUCESTER	40
	CHELMSFORD	BROMSGROVE	41
	CELTIC	ST. MIRREN	42
	DUNDEE UTD.	HIBERNIAN	43
	MOTHERWELL	DUNFERMLINE	44
SCOTTISH B&Q DIVISION 2	ALBION R.	FORFAR	45
	CLYDEBANK	CLYDE	46
	FALKIRK	AIRDRIE	47
	MEADOWBANK	ALLOA	48
	MORTON	AYR	49
SCOTTISH B&Q DIVISION 3	PARTICK	ST. JOHNSTONE	50
	RAITH	HAMILTON	51
	ARBROATH	O. OF SOUTH	52
	BERWICK	STRANRAER	53
	BRECHIN	STIRLING A.	54
SCOTTISH B&Q DIVISION 4	COWDENBATH	MONTROSE	55
	ALBION R.	FORFAR	45
	CLYDEBANK	CLYDE	46
	FALKIRK	AIRDRIE	47
	MEADOWBANK	ALLOA	48

* BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

Jackpot This Week est. \$650,000

MATCH RESULTS

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	CHARLTON	O.P.R.	1	1-0
	CHELSEA	DERBY	2	1-1
	MAN. UTD.	COVENTRY	3	3-0
	MILLWALL	CRYSTAL P.	4	1-2
	NORWICH	LUTON	5	2-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	NOTTINGHAM F.	WIMBLEDON	6	0-1
	SHEFF. WED.	TOTTENHAM	7	2-4
	BARNLEY	OXFORD UTD.	8	1-0
	BRADFORD C.	SUNDERLAND	9	0-1
	HULL	WEST BROM.	10	0-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	MIDDLESBRO	OLDHAM	11	1-0
	NEWCASTLE	BRIGHTON	12	2-0
	PLYMOUTH	IPSWICH	13	1-0
	PORTSMOUTH	BOURNEMOUTH	14	2-1
	STOKE	SHEFF. UTD.	15	0-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	SWINDON	LEICESTER	16	1-1
	WATFORD	BLACKBURN	17	3-1
	WEST HAM	PORT VALE	18	2-2
	WOLVES	LEEDS	19	1-0
	BRENTFORD	SHREWSBURY	20	1-1
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	BRISTOL C.	MANSFIELD	21	1-1
	BURY	FULHAM	22	0-0
	CARDIFF	BLACKPOOL	23	2-2
	CHESTER	BOLTON	24	2-0
	HUDDERSFIELD	BIRMINGHAM	25	1-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	NORTHAMPTON	BRISTOL R.	26	1-2
	PRESTON	NOTTS. C.	27	2-4
	READING	LEYTON O.	28	1-1
	ROTHERHAM	CREWE	29	1-3
	WALSALL	WIGAN A.	30	1-2
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	BURNLEY	DONCASTER	31	0-1
	CARLISLE	SCARBORO	32	3-1
	CHESTERFIELD	GILLINGHAM	33	2-0
	COLCHESTER	SCUNTHORPE	34	1-0
	GRIMSBY	LINCOLN	35	1-0
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	HEREFORD	EXETER	36	2-1
	MAIDSTONE	SOUTHEND	37	3-0
	ROCHDALE	HALIFAX	38	0-2
	ASHFORD	CAMBRIDGE C.	39	
	BURTON A.	GLOUCESTER	40	

THE POOLS RESULT HISTORY AT 31/3/90 — WEEK 244

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED												NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									
25	30	38	14	30	45	35	44	12	0	6	18	2	1	2	4						
42	54	49	51	45	46	49	44	32	4	1	3	10	11	13	0						
46	45	35	51	46	50	51	47	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	2						
46	55	52	61	53	60	51	51	25	26	1	7	0	0	2	9						
49	63	55	65	52	51			13	8	4	2	1	2								

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 244 SAT 31 MARCH, 1990

Total Prize Pool is \$565,936.67
Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order): 16, 18, 20, 21, 23, 28. Supplementary Number: 2

Division 1
The Prize Pool is \$474,890.67
No Winner Jackpot Week 245 (est. \$650,000 next week)

Division 2
There are no winners therefore the prize pool is distributed amongst division 3 winners.

Division 3
The Prize Pool is \$20,805.00
73 winners of \$285.00 ea

Division 4
The Prize Pool is \$38,989.00
3,070 winners of \$12.70 ea

Division 5
The Prize Pool is \$31,252.00
3,005 winners of \$10.40 ea

BRITISH SOCCER RESULTS AND TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE												DIVISION FOUR									
P W D L F A Pts												P W D L F A Pts									
Liverpool	30	17	8	5	56	30	59					Exeter	36	21	3	12	64	38	66		
Aston Villa	31	18	5	8	47	28	59					Grimby	38	18	11	9	54	37	65		
Arsenal	31	16	5	10	46	30	52					Southend	38	10	8	12	51	39	62		
Tottenham	32	14	6	12	48	41	47					Carlisle	37	18	7	12	49	44	61		
Everton	31	14	6	11	44	37	48					Chesterfield	36	17	9	10	53	37	60		
Chelsea	32	12	8	8	48	43	48					Stockport	38	17	8	13	53	52	59		
Nottingham	31	12	8	11	42	36	44					Lincoln	37	16	10	11	38	34	58		
Sheff Wed	32	11	11	10	34	35	44					Maidstone	37	17	6	14	58	49	57		
Coventry	32	13	5	14	34	44	44					Peterborough	38	15	9	13	40	38	54		
Wimbledon	30	10	13	7	39	33	43					Gillingham	37	15	9	13	40	38	54		
Southampton	31	11	10	10	60	55	43					Rochdale	37	16	5	16	38	40	53		
QPR	30	11	10	9	36	32	43					Southport	38	13	12	13	54	45	51		
Derby	31	11	7	13	37	31	40					York	37	12	13	12	41	46	49		
Sheff Wed	33	10	10	13	32	43	40					Burnley	36	13	9	14	37	43	48		
Crystal Pal	31	11	7	13	36	37	40					Torquay	37	13	9	15	43	52	48		
Man Utd	32	10	8	14	40	40	36					Cambridge	34	13	8	15	51	52	47		
Luton	32	7	12	13	35	49	33					Hereford	37	13	8	16	46	48	47		
Man City	30	7	10	13	31	45	31					Aldershot	37	11	12	14	44	44	45		
Charlton	32	7	9	16	27	43	35					Doncaster	38	12	8	18	43	47	44		
Millwall	32	5	10	17	37	55	25					Scarb	37	12	7	18	45	58	43		
												Hartlepool	38	11	9	18	55	77	42		
												Wrexham	38	9	11	18	38	52	38		
												Colchester	38	9	10	19	42	61	37		

DIVISION TWO

Leeds	38	21	10	7	66	42	73
Sheff Utd	37	19	12	6	58	41	69
Swindon	38	17	11	10	69	51	62
Newcastle	37	16	12	9	63	46	60

Blackburn	37	15	14	8	66	52	59
Wolves	38	16	11	11	58	50	59
Sunderland	37	15	13	9	57	54	58
Oldham	36	15	12	9	54	42	57
Ipswich	37	15	11	11	50	50	56
West Ham	37	14	11	12	60	48	53
Port Vale	38	13	14	11	51	45	53
Watford	38	13	11	14	47	45	50
Oxford	38	14	8	16	53	53	50
Leicester	37	12	12	13	52	58	48
WBA	38	11	13	14	58	56	46
Bournemouth	38	11	11	16	43	60	44
Portsmouth	38	10	13	15	47	57	43
Brighton	38	12	7	19	47	58	43
Middlesbrough	37	11	8	18	41	53	41
Barnley	36	10	10	16	37	60	40
Plymouth	36	10	9	17	45	53	39
Hull	37	8	15	14	42	53	39
Bradford	39	8	12	19	39	59	36
Stoke	38	5	16	17	27	52	31

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIV

Rangers	30	16	9	5	39	17	41
Aberdeen	31	16	9	8	50	31	37
Hearts	31	14	9	8	50	33	37
Celtic	30	10	12	8	34	25	32
Dundee Utd	31	10	11	10	34	36	31
Hibernian	31	11	8	12	31	37	30
Motherwell	31	9	11	11	37	40	29
Dunfermlin	31	9	7	15	31	44	25
St Mirren	31	8	9	14	22	43	25
Dundee	31	5	11	15	37	59	21

DIVISION ONE

St Johnst	34	22	7	5	74	33	51
Airdrie	33	22	6	5	68	34	50
Falkirk	34	13	12	9	53	41	38
Hamilton	34	13	12	9	48	46	38
Clydebank	33	13	9	11	62	35	46
Rathf	34	13	9	12	50	48	35
Parkbank	34	13	12	11	54	34	44
Millwall	34	11	10	13	53	34	41
Ayr	34	10	12	12	40	57	32
Moorton	34	8	15	11	34	38	31
Claydon	33	8	12	13	31	39	28
Forfar	34	6	13	15	43	60	23
Adrian	34	6	10	18	39	63	22
Albion	33	6	9	18	40	69	21

Note: Forfar deducted two points for holding an ineligible player.

DIVISION TWO

Brechin	34	18	9	7	55	37	45
Kilmarnock	33	16	8	9	48	39	40
Stirling	33	15	7	11	56	43	37
Cowthorn	34	11	12	11	48	44	34
East Fife	34	11	12	11	55	52	34
Q of S	34	11	12	11	56	59	34
Arbroath	33	11	12	13	48	32	41
Berwick	33	13	5	16	52	31	43
Dunbarton	30	11	8	10	56	34	40
Queens Pk	34	10	9	15	36	47	29
Montrose	34	8	11	15	44	56	27
Stranraer	31	10	6	15	43	53	26
E Skirling	30	7	8	15	25	49	23

Nick's courageous comeback

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

NICK Theodorakopoulos, the only NSL player to have broken his leg three times, recently made a courageous comeback to score Apia's winning goal against Preston in Melbourne and simultaneously lift his team back into the 'Top Five' bracket.

Nick, who late last year set up his own business, MAJESTIC TRAVEL in the inner city area of Sydney, has shown exceptional strength of character to fight his way back onto the football pitch.

Since a child, Nick was a super keen fan of the great Liverpool Soccer Club.

The club, as far back as Nick can remember, was a club of fighters.

He regarded himself as a fighter but had to prove it.

Three broken legs plus repeated warnings by his doctors to give football away deterred Nick not at all.

"I just had to comeback."

"I knew the great risks involved plus the responsibilities I now have running my own business."

"But football is in my blood."

"I am still only 25. How could I give it away?"

Theodorakopoulos first broke his leg playing for Sydney Olympic against Wollongong City back in 1985, April 14 to be exact.

But alas, on December 8 the same year, Nick broke his leg in the same place playing Indoor.

Theodorakopoulos quietly ignored all advice to stop playing and worked himself back to fitness.

He still went to see NSL matches, but he had to come back just once more.



Nick — the player

The next time could leave him crippled for life.

It was Sunday, August 31 and Sydney Olympic was playing Wollongong City at Pratten Park, and bang, it was broken again.

Nick was left shattered, but still that deep seated desire to play was burning him.

Last Sunday week, the moment of truth had arrived and he came back as a 66th minute replacement in Apia colours.

Just 14 minutes after coming on, Theodorakopoulos gained possession and knocked a ball wide to Apia's brilliant midfielder Alex Bundalo on the right.

Bundalo raced away, but so did Nick in support.

Bundalo lashed a low cross into the box to find Theodorakopoulos, who pushed the ball through a defender's legs and then side-footed the ball past the advancing goalkeeper Phil Traianedes and into

the net for a glorious winning goal.

Theodorakopoulos



Nick — the businessman.

TOP FIVE SERIES

Follow the NSL system

SEMI-FINALS

29th April, 1990

MATCH (A)

Elimination semi-final 4 vs 5 (loser eliminated)

MATCH (B)

Preliminary semi-final 2 vs 3

SEMI-FINALS

6th May, 1990

MATCH (C)

Minor semi-final — Winner (A) vs Loser (B) (Loser eliminated)

MATCH (D)

Major semi-final — Winner (B) vs 1

PRELIMINARY FINAL

13th May, 1990

MATCH (E)

Winner (C) vs Loser (D) (Loser eliminated)

GRAND FINAL

20th May, 1990

1ST LEG

Winner (D) vs Winner (E)

27th May, 1990

2ND LEG

(should there be two teams from different states involved)

Venues to be announced

had arrived back with a bang.

Alone to reflect the years of trials and tribulations plus the loneliness he had experienced and to now reconcile it all to this moment of glory.

That great Liverpool admiration of strength of character, unyielding determination and commitment had brought Nick reward.

It was worth every second.

Theodorakopoulos slowly walked back to join the Apia squad where he had to buy all of them drinks at the bar to celebrate.

It cost him over \$100.00, but so what?

Nick's burning desire had been answered.

Nick Theodorakopoulos had won his biggest battle.

The greatest battle one can win. He had beaten all the odds stacked against him, and ALONE with 'Hope In His Heart'.

A more active role for David Ratcliffe

BY ROBERT SMITH OF AAP



THE premature end to the season for Wollongong City defender Ray Vlietstra has prolonged the playing career of National Soccer League warhorse David Ratcliffe.

Vlietstra broke a leg in the Wolves' 6-0 hammering by St George just when 33-year-old Ratcliffe was considering easing down his playing commitments to concentrate on his coaching role with Wollongong.

Ratcliffe is in his 13th season since coming to Australia from English club Bradford City in 1978 and 302 games later he's bolstering the defences of his latest club, Wollongong.

Ratcliffe took over as player-coach of Wollongong this season after six years at St George and has been contemplating a more inactive role with the struggling South Coast club.

"I'm tired of playing and it's difficult playing and coaching at the same time," said Ratcliffe.

"But it depends on who we've got and with Ray's unfortunate mishap it means I virtually have to play until the end of the season."

Ratcliffe is mindful of the many young players he has at Brandon Park and he wants to guide them on the field.

Ratcliffe' defensive

partner Vlietstra broke his leg in two places.

He didn't need an operation and was discharged from hospital last week — but he won't be back until next season.

REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories, and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers, here is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

You can receive a mail subscription copy of Australia's premier soccer publication each week for 1990 simply by mailing the coupon and your cheque for \$90 (overseas airmail rates on request) made payable to "Australian Soccer Weekly" to

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DIXIE DEANS

ADELAIDE City will bring in former stars Agenor Muniz from Sydney and Gary Marochi, from Perth, for the Dixie Deans curtain-raiser to Adelaide City-Melbourne Croatia game on the Easter weekend.

City's Scottish legend, Deans is due to arrive in Adelaide early next week.

NSW updates services

THE NSW Soccer Federation and Information Dialling Services have joined together to exclusively promote and present football results and reports on the NSW State League and all other competitions conducted by the NSW Soccer Federation.

All of this information will be operated on the 0055 telephone network.

In announcing this initiative, the President of the NSW Soccer Federation, Mr John Constantine, said: "Following our successful venture with Information Dialling Services in broadcasting the Australia versus Moscow Torpedo game on the 0055 network, it was logical that we expand our relationship to incorporate information and results of Federation fixtures."

"Our decision to utilise the services of Information Dialling Services was further prompted by the outstanding results that the Quit National Soccer League achieved by introducing this service."

The service will include three lines that will be operating on the following numbers:

Results service 0055 22681

Fixture Service 0055 22682

Weather & Ground Report 0055 22683

RATES: 57c per minute (Business Hours) 21c per minute (off-peak).

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Adelaide plans ahead

IT's always a pleasure to visit Adelaide, certainly my second favourite city in Australia.

Grabbed a couple of days in Adelaide last week on assignment for SBS Television to promote their forthcoming coverage of the World Cup in Italy.

I like Adelaide for many reasons, none the least being the people around our game of football — friendly, keen, enthusiastic and to their great credit enjoying a relative boom time thanks to high-flying Adelaide City and the contribution of Adelaide Hellas, even though they are not enjoying the best of seasons.

Media support, particularly radio, is quite an eye-opener in Adelaide and in no small way has contributed to the significant increase in crowds at QUIT NSL games.

Radio's substantial coverage in many outlets includes live coverage of all QNSL games played in Adelaide with excellent commentary from Ian Aitken, Garie Dooley and Johnny Nyskohus.

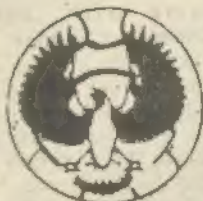
Another reason Adelaide is doing well crowd-wise is there are two teams in the NSL providing a first-class match each weekend.

The fear is that Hellas' possible relegation will destroy this continuity and Adelaide fans argue, quite correctly, that room should be made for two Adelaide teams — perhaps by increasing

next season's league to 16 teams.

Despite the success of the crowd support and City's on-field performances, the big news in Adelaide is the proposed \$6 million dollar development of Hindmarsh Stadium into a first class stadium.

Cost of the development has risen from an original \$3.9 million to



first class stadiums such as medical rooms, first class dressing rooms and drug testing rooms.

• The eastern stand will provide bar and



MIKE WELLS, SA general manager.

the current \$6 million — all government funded.

The whole development is planned to be completed by September/October 1991 with stage one to be:

• A \$1.02 million lighting system which will be first cab off the rank followed by completion of eastern and western grandstands which will provide in excess of 7,000 seating.

• The new western stand will incorporate corporate boxes and FIFA technical facilities now required at all

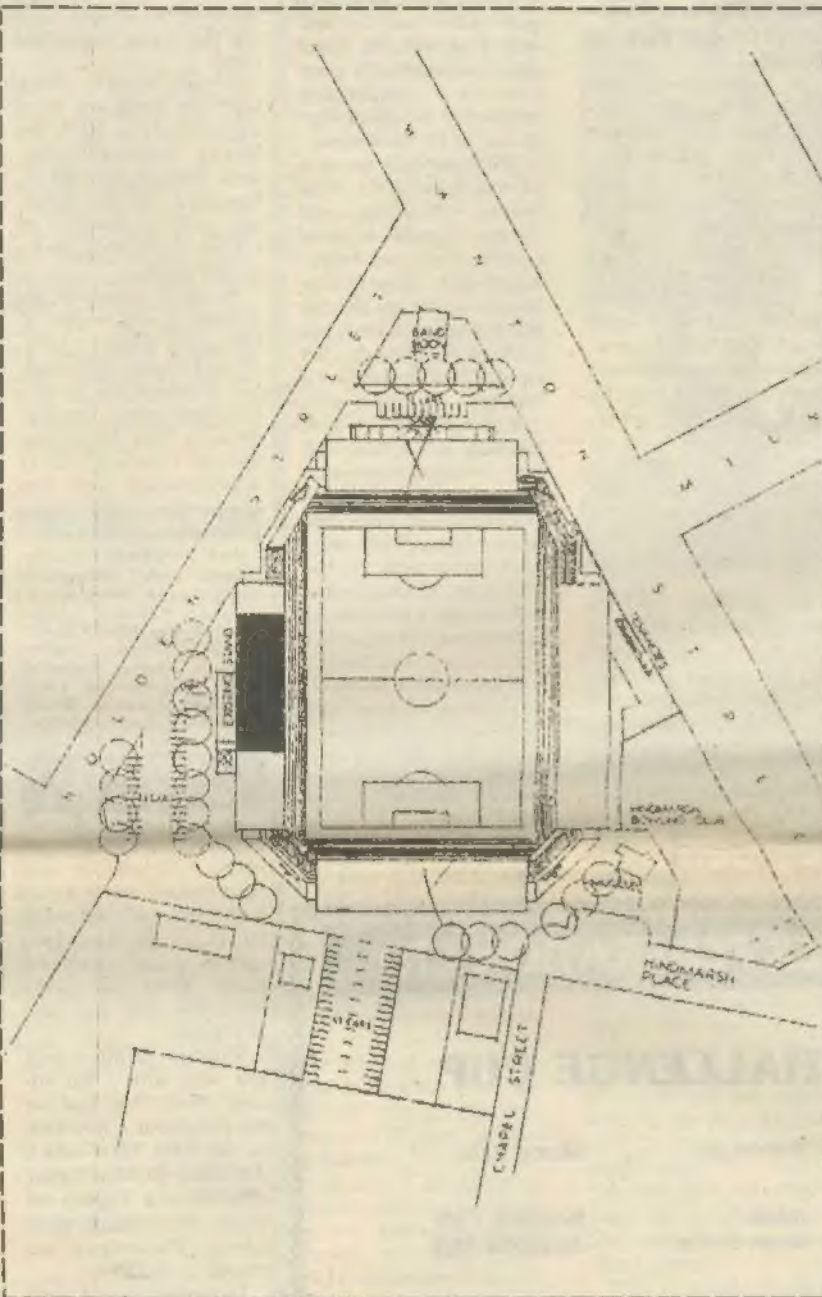
dining facilities with panoramic windows to provide uninterrupted views of the playing area.

Stage two will be funded by the South Australian Soccer Federation by funds generated from corporate box sales and ground advertising.

It will include all seated facilities behind each goal at the northern ends to finally give Hindmarsh an all seater 17,000 capacity stadium which will be the showpiece of Australian soccer.

REVAMP AT HINDMARSH STADIUM

BELOW: Hindmarsh Stadium upgrading will cost \$6 million and finally provide a compact and modern 17,000 seat stadium.



EUROPE BECKONS SA YOUTH

NEGOTIATIONS are proceeding for the cream of South Australia's under 21 soccer talent to play in an international tournament in Yugoslavia this year.

South Australian Soccer Federation general manager Mike Wells said that an invitation had been received from Yugoslav First Division club Rijeka for a State team to contest the prestigious series.

"Some of the best club teams in the world have played in this tournament and it is an honour to be asked," Wells said.

The seven-day tournament is scheduled to be played at the end of August.

Players born on or before January 1, 1970, will be eligible for selection, as will two players born on or before August 1, 1969.

"This would mean that outstanding young players such as Carl Veart, Tony Vidmar, Michael Brooks and Mark Brazzale would be eligible for selection," Wells said.

"Provided we can justify the costs, it will be great for the game in South Australia to be represented at this tournament."

For those who do not think time is passing by... former Saint George and Canberra City coach Victor Fernandez turned 51 last week and former Soccerroo John Watkiss 50 on March 28.

Former Soccerroo and Apia star Archie Blue is now doing very nicely with ARCHIE BLUE'S EMPORIUM which sells original bushman outfits of authentic Australian design to the growing number of overseas tourists to Sydney. Archie's business is based in Surry Hills, Sydney.

Adelaide Hellas' Richard Miranda is based in Sydney and flies down to Adelaide or wherever to meet up with his team-mates for the weekend.

While based in Sydney Miranda trains with Melita but this created a problem when the teams were due to meet recently.

To avoid "problems" it was decided between the respective clubs that Miranda would train somewhere else in the week before the Hellas-Melita encounter at Hindmarsh.

South Australian enthusiasm

A big thank you to Carlos Buzetti, development officer for South Australia, who was the perfect host during my visit to Adelaide.

Together we visited five schools in the city area for promotional activities surrounding SBS TV's extensive World Cup coverage.

On our visit to OLV we were joined by Peter Larvin, enthusiastic backer of Adelaide City, and Neville Flounders, Adelaide City's highly respected defender.

Whilst realising many clubs do a lot of things in schools one is still left with the thought that Australian soccer is not doing enough to promote the game in a massive promotional/PR campaign throughout Australia.

Schools welcome promotional visits, the kids love asking questions about the game and its players and soccer can win a whole generation of new fans by promoting in the schools on a regular basis.

Questions raised in West

The SBS promotional visit also took me to Perth and as in Adelaide the enthusiasm for the game is enormous, yet uninformed.

The many questions on the World Cup and SBS' extensive coverage is one event ALL Australian soccer should be behind.

It is soccer's chance to show our fabulous game off to the rest of Australia and every fan can help by passing on the following information:

SBS will cover all 52 World Cup final games LIVE plus repeat them in the lead-up to their acclaimed news every afternoon.

That varies depending on the number of games played each day which can be one match up to four matches.

That means in a four-match day LIVE coverage will start just after midnight and finish around 8am.

These games would then be replayed from 11am up till SBS News the same evening.

Then from 7-8.30pm every evening of the World Cup — June 8 till July 8 — SBS will run a 90 minute package of highlights from the day's games plus news, views etc.

Again soccer's chance in Australia... tell your friends about it...



ADELAIDE CITY's veteran defender Bugsy Nyskohus shows some of his acrobatic skills in his 294th and last appearance in the NSL. Neville Flounders looks on. — Photo: CARLO IRLITTI.

Canberra's pre-season trophy

ONLY a handful of people turned up at Marconi Stadium last Wednesday to see Canberra Croatia hang on to defeat BHP Austral 1-0.

A pity more weren't on hand to see a most enjoyable game which saw Croatia on top from the kick-off and the Newcastle side giving them a real run for their money in the second half.

Serena on the right made a good run in the 16th minute, sent over a good cross and when the Austral defence failed to clear the ball, Tony Lemezena was able to pick his spot with ease.

Although Robbie Porter hit the bar in the 40th it wasn't until the second half that the Novocastrians found their feet.

They threw everything at the Canberra side, but without reward, squandering chances galore, with Dougie Elphick guilty of missing a real sitter in the 72nd minute.

The trophy went to the nation's capital and although the final itself was probably not cost effective, clubs participating in the series were generally pleased with their efforts in organising their own pre-season tournament.

Rockdale's early win

POLONIA 0
ROCKDALE 1

AFTER electing not to compete in the pre-season competition and a decision taken largely due to coach John Fleming's intention to minimize preparation for the main season starting in May, Rockdale-Ilinden was expected to be a little rusty when they took on the accomplished Polonia at Chopin Park on Sunday.

A flu epidemic had swept through the Polonia camp causing key players Kulwicki, Robertson, Gavin Thompson and Chau to miss the game and their absence was keenly felt.

All the same Rockdale played well in the sloppy conditions, with Bruno Boddoni the star, scoring the winner and generally impressing with his skilful play. Boddoni had been on loan to Uruguay-Penrith last season after joining from Apia, but is unlikely to get away again after this performance.

He latched on to a through ball from Greg Lerond to score well, but Lerond in the process damaged ligaments in the knee when executing the pass and will be out of action for some time.

Stuart Porter, another to shine after looking set to leave the club at one stage, rat-

tled the post with a long range screamer and made a good contribution to a game that was an excellent spectacle.

POLONIA: Jenkins, C. Thompson, Pratt, Lasek, Andersen, Camburn, Colusso, Navan, Beamer, Janduda, Nowicki (subs Milnic, and Serjak).

ROCKDALE-ILINDEN: Warren, Segreto, Buchanan, D. Wilson, Krkovski, Willis, Kerry, Deveridge, Boddoni, Porter, Lerond (subs Ribarovski, Stojceviski).

BHP AUSTRAL 1
AVALA 1

The Challenge Cup got under way at Austral Park with the home side confident of a good start in a competition which will see them start as one of the favourites.

They enjoyed the best of the first half, had Simon Brandt and Dougie Elphick in good touch, and the latter could have helped himself to a goal in the 5th minute after being put through by Brandt, but could not finish well enough.

Robbie Porter and Elphick combined well four minutes later with Brandt missing his chance to score, but McWhirter fired in a sensational shot in the 18th from 25 metres that whistled past the post to emphasize Newcastle's dominance at this stage.

Although Radosavljevic hit a 15th minute free kick just wide, Avala was disorganized in the first period and had no answer to the BHP boys' flowing game.

Tempers flared after Austral hit the lead in

the 24th minute. Mike Boogaard made a successful challenge on Rodic, winning the ball in the air and Howard Tredinnick pounced on the loose ball to put his side in front.

Soon after Radovic was sent off following a clash with Bobby Naumov and the locals continued to press home their superiority.

Porter hit the crossbar in the 30th and a good move involving Porter, Brandt and McWhirter ended with the ball being scrambled clear.

Avala fought back after the break and from another free kick by Mirko Radosavljevic, drew level as the ball rebounded off the defensive wall to the feet of Chris Ackerley, who netted neatly.

Naumov received his marching orders late in the game after a skirmish led to his retaliation, but although the visitors had their game together now, it was Newcastle which had a penalty appeal turned down that could have won them the game.

BHP AUSTRAL: Carter, Bowen, Jones, Boogaard, Tredinnick, McWhirter (Devon), Naumov, Porter, Bailey, Brandt, Elphick (Burt).

AVALA: Rodic, Radic, Radosavljevic, Dragomiresku, Vasic, Sankovic, Ackerley, Benite, Welch (subs Nastovski, Atagic).

SUTHERLAND 3
NORTH SHORE UTD 1

Sutherland took full advantage of a disorganised North Shore defence and with John Kosmina in dominant form, soon had two quick goals posted against their old rivals from the opposite side of the city.

Robbie O'Shea was just wide with a 3rd minute effort, but laid on the pass from a free kick in the 17th from which defender Robbie Sellar unleashed a superb 40 metre drive which gave Craig Thornton no chance.

Thornton saved well from Kosmina moments later, but after Tony Gough had cleared a Grant Bard effort off the line in the 34th and Thornton had tipped a Scott Leney shot on the run over the bar, The Sharks went further in front.

A cross from the left by Bard in the 37th eluded several players before Kosmina was able to pick his spot from ten metres.

Kosmina was an ever present danger and had headed against the bar two minutes earlier, also receiving solid support from Bard and Leney.

George Savidis nodded a Peter Norman free kick just wide soon after the restart as North Shore began to regroup, but as United began to claw their way back, Leney made a swift break and was brought down in the box, leaving Kosmina to convert the penalty and Sutherland's third goal in the 71st.

Sutherland will be heartened by their strong showing, while North Shore will want

Tony Lemezena the hero

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THERE was no greater illustration of how sport can turn player from villain to hero than the closing minutes of Canberra Croatia's NSW Cup game with Inter Monaro on Sunday.

With two minutes of ordinary time remaining and the scores tied at 0-0, Croatia's George Kulcsar slipped a pass to Tony Lemezena only for the striker to make a botch of it, allowing the ball to run past him into the hands of goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski.

Lemezena was roundly abused by the home supporters, most of whom began to stream towards the exit.

It was the last chance wasted, they complained. After 88 minutes without a goal, Croatia was surely not

going to score now.

But they had reckoned without Sydney referee Arthur Owens, who had kept strict account of the many stops and starts throughout the game, and without Lemezena's persistence.

The game was going into its fifth minute of stoppage time when Alan Reis collected the ball on the right and put in a low cross.

Lemezena, loose from his marker, flung himself full length, his head meeting the ball centimetres from the turf and steering it beyond the reach of the diving Hoszowski into the net.

And suddenly Tony Lemezena was the toast of Deakin Oval.

In reality judgement of Lemezena and his team should fall somewhere between those



extremes. The game was far short of the exciting and often goal-filled duels of the past between these old rivals.

Monaro defended competently for most of the time and with the speedy John Janke and the improving Robert Chicco up front, was ever capable of stealing a result.

Steve Bryant and Angelo Ambrosino were largely responsible for putting the extra stiffening into Monaro's defence.

CANBERRA CROATIA: Gunning, Junna, Caggett, Zelic, Young (Dukic 64), Kulcsar, Marcina, Fratezina, Reis Lemezena, Pazis.

INTER MONARO: Hoszowski, Grassick, Monerosso (Alchin 85), Ambrosino, Bryant, Daniello, Djordjic (Carbone 67), Fernandez, Popovich, Janke, Chicco.

REFEREE: Arthur Owens. CROWD: 990.



Sydney Macedonia's Scott Gilbert (left) falls headlong while Canberra Croatia's Andrew Young is already on the deck in the NSW pre-season tournament game at Deakin Oval. The ball eludes both of them. Croatia won 3-0.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION LTD

SATURDAY APRIL 7

NSW CHALLENGE CUP

GROUP A

Inter Monaro

v Warringah

Marco Polo

GROUP B

Wollongong Mac

v Avala

Brandon Park

BHP Austral

v North Shore

Australia Park

DIVISION 2

Waverley

v Fairfield City

Waverley Oval

Orange Waratahs

v Southern Dists

Waratah SG 6pm & 8pm

DIVISION 3

Cyprus Utd

v Bathurst '75

Fraser Park

Port Hacking

v University of NSW

Seymour Shaw

SUNDAY APRIL 8

NSW CHALLENGE CUP

GROUP A

Canberra Croatia

v Polonia

Deakin Oval

Canterbury

v Rockdale

Arlington Oval

GROUP B

Sydney Macedonia

v Sutherland

Jensen Park

DIVISION 2

Manly

v Campbelltown Vik

Cromer Park

Granville Chile

v Central Coast

Garside Park

Gladesville Hby

v Dulwich Hill

Christie Park

Mt Druitt

v Auburn Yugal

Popondetta Park

Petersham

v Rosebery

Erskineville Oval

DIVISION 3

Canterbury Dist

v Mt Pritchard

Mackey Park

Concordia

v Bankstown

Marrickville Oval

Hills United

v West Wanderers

Fred Caterson

Lemnos All Stars

v North Ryde RSL

Campbelltown Oval

All games kick-off with U19 at 1pm. Except BHP Austral, on 2.30pm with U19s at 12.30pm.

See State League action this week!

NEW SOUTH WALES CHALLENGE CUP

BHP Austral v Avala	1-1	5-1
Canberra v Inter Monaro	1-0	2-0
Polonia v Rockdale	0-1	2-1
Warringah v Canterbury	canc	canc
Sutherland v North Shore	3-1	2-0
Wollongong Mac v Sydney Mac	1-5	canc
SECOND DIVISION		
Waverley v Petersham	canc	canc
Central Coast v Gladesville H'by	canc	canc
Campbelltown Vik v Granville Chile	2-1	1-1
Dulwich Hill v Fairfield City	3-2	1-2
Auburn Yugal v Manly Warringah	1-4	1-7
Southern District v Mt Druitt Town	1-0	1-1
Rosebery v Orange Waratahs	5-0	5-1
THIRD DIVISION		
Canterbury & Dist v Bathurst 75	1-0	4-0
West Wanderers v Cyprus United	canc	canc
Mt Pritchard v Concordia	4-0	8-0
Uni of NSW v Hills United	2-1	1-2
North Ryde RSL v Port Hacking	2-3	1-2
Bankstown v Lemnos Allstars	canc	canc
FEDERATION LEAGUE FOUR		
Concord Juniors v Arncliffe	1-0	2-0
Hajduk Rangers v Spanish Club	2-0	2-4
Belmore Hercules v Hawkesbury Dist	canc	canc
Colo Colo v SSC Zagreb	2-3	2-1
Croatia Syd Jnrs v Nineveh Eagles	0-3	canc
Rooty Hill Gunners v Trasandinos	canc	canc
FEDERATION LEAGUE FIVE		
Prospect Utd v Sydney Uni	canc	canc
West Dist Hellas v Macquarie Uni	3-3	3-1
Sporting Peru v Maccabi Hakoah	2-3	2-1
CSI Schofields v Ashour Star	canc	canc
Chile Sports v Lithgow Workmen	0-3	0-2
FEDERATION LEAGUE SIX		
Cobroloa v Pagewood Botany	canc	canc
Abruzzi v New Welcome Sport	canc	canc
Assyrian v Liverpool Oly	3-1	0-2
Fogolar Furlan v St Josephs	1-3	1-1
Portian Eagles v Liverpool City	3-4	3-2
Penrith v Balmain	1-0	0-1

Fighting for progress

GREG BLAKE LAYS DOWN HIS LAW

IF nothing else, ASW's continuing 'great debate' on the merits of lack thereof of trying to adapt our game to Australia in the 1990s has proved once again that one heck of a lot of people out there truly care about the great sport of Association Football.

In recent weeks yours truly as well as fellow ASW columnists Mike Johnson, Mike Ticher and Frank Sciculina have bought into the red-hot argument.

Johnny Warren has had his say, journalist Mike Cockerill ran a brilliant series on the subject, ASW editor Keith Gilmour is outspoken on his ideas of the direction the game should take, the NSL's Sam Papasavvas, ex-Socceroo Alan Davidson and every fan on the terraces has voiced an opinion.

That is good.

It means people are talking about the game and hidden amongst all the garbage there are hopefully, one or two jewels.

The important thing is that we all care.

Fellow ASW writer Mike Johnson seems like a nice sort of chap and there is no doubt that both he and Mike Ticher, who produced an interesting piece for ASW recently, have their hearts in the right place when it comes to soccer.

Maybe they are of another generation to mine.

But for all their good intentions I would like to, to coin an 'Americanism', bottom line my whole argument.

Mike Johnson recently wrote of a rather pleasant day he spent refereeing and/or simply watching three games in the Sydney area with standards ranging from lower division teams to NSL.

He waxed lyrical about all three fixtures and saw many positives for every negative and good luck to him.

He is a man who cares deeply for the game — unfortunately, there are not enough who do.

I doubt Mr Joe Average, the man in the street who doesn't care for our code, would be at all impressed by what Mike saw to be a celebration of the round ball code.

That's my point — if we are content to cater for only our in-bred and very limited soccer community, the true lovers of the game, we are doomed.

Even the successful football codes in this country have realised the need to take their own games out of the traditional centres of support and into hitherto untouched sections of the

community.

Mike, if you're happy to simply settle for what we've got, I am not.

You are correct, it's a great game — but all too few people know it.

Mike, you referred to the limited skills of basketball and I couldn't agree more.

But people are turning on to basketball in droves for all its limited skills and the reason is that it has gone to the people offering an ENTERTAINMENT PACKAGE.

If only half the new basketball devotees stay on once the boom is over — if it in fact ends — it will still have more than doubled in both playing and spectating numbers inside a decade.

Surely, this is what we must aspire to.

I'll settle for what Mike terms "infantile balony" if it turns new people on to soccer.

Forward

What is wrong with some progressive thinking which might, just might, drag the game kicking and screaming into Australian society 1990 style?

Yes, basketball does as Mike puts it, need the hype and hoopla but I'm afraid that so do we.

Unless Mike, you have some other solution.

Picking holes in Aussie rules and rugby league as being non-entities in the rest of the world is strictly quite correct.

The problem is, of course, that in Australia soccer is the non-entity.

I do not see that as acceptable, and wish it to change by hook or by crook.

We should be stamping our feet and demanding change and not just sitting back and accepting it as being our lot in life.



John Warren.

The idea that you cannot tamper with our fine code is OK in places where there is an established supporter base and a guaranteed support come what may.

It seems to rankle with the traditionalists that we actually need change to promote "the greatest game in the world" in Australia.

It might be the greatest game in the rest of the world — excluding the USA of course — but it runs a poor last here and until we recognise that fact we will continue to do so.

That is the hard, ugly truth of the matter.

There is nobody I admire more than Johnny Warren in his efforts to promote our code.

Like Mike Johnson, Johnny has been banging his head hard and long on any brick wall he can find to try and promote the game at any level.

And Johnny's bottom line at press conferences is always that soccer is "the real football" and that as it is the "most popular game in the world" it should be treated with due reverence by the media.

With the usual indifference the mainstream media shows and takes no notice.

We have been tapping the general public on the shoulder for years and they've ignored us.

Promote

Now it's time to shout in their ears, ruffle a few feathers and get stuck in with the rest of the codes trying to muscle in on the sporting dollar.

We not only can, but must, start tampering with the game if it is to be awarded its rightful place in Australian society.

Kerry Packer's World Series Cricket mob was accused of prostituting cricket a little over a decade ago.

Big money, promotions, hybrid one-day games, colour, night matches would be the death of one of the most 'traditional' of sports ever played was the prediction.

A decade on and the game couldn't be in a more healthy state at the top level where, summer after summer, they keep packing them in — including the fans who previously had considered the game untouchable.

I believe Mike Ticher is wrong.

He recently wrote that "over the top promotions" do not fill stadiums.

Get your head out of the sand, Mike.

Cricket, Aussie rules, basketball, rugby league and even baseball are proving you wrong every single week.

And they are all stealing a march on the greatest game in the world.

Competent, aggressive marketing does work.

I crave the day we can fill the stadiums all across this land for Association football games.

But it will not happen if we keep expecting to simply because to millions of other people in other nations across the globe Association football is a religion and a life-time obsession.

Mike, it's people like you and I and the small but determined band who love the game and wish it to thrive in this country, who must get up and start kicking some butts if we intend to be noticed.

I'm sorry you don't see it that way.

"FOOT SHOOTING"

If we didn't already know it before, soccer's embarrassingly pathetic profile in Melbourne's sporting community was highlighted last week by Aussie rules legend Ron Barassi. Writing in Melbourne's 'Herald' newspaper, Barassi was making his predictions on how the major sporting codes will fare over the next decade. After wrapping up AFL, rugby league and basketball, he said what we all knew anyway, "Soccer's capacity to shoot itself in the foot will not have changed, unless Mikhail Gorbachev is elected president of the ASF," was Barassi's summation.

OOO

VSF MISSES

Basement team Blacktown City is strolling into 1990 seemingly unruffled by losing its ONSL place. According to a Sunshine official,

"the Demons are going to do their time easy. And why shouldn't they with the system that has everything in favour of NSW clubs," he said.

"A Victorian club goes out of the league and doesn't get to play again until early 1991 and even if they win the league in that season, there is no guarantee of a place in the NSL. If Blacktown goes down it is straight into it again and could be promoted, automatically mind you, in time for next season."

The point is well made, but it is not Blacktown's fault. The VSF made no provision for re-entry, whereas NSW did.

Preston to take longer view

BY GREG BLAKE

IN a rare and welcome display of candour, Preston Makedonia president Chris Jankulovski has conceded that his club had made some recruiting mistakes in the past.

Jankulovski also chastised club official Alex Andonovski for talking to the press out of turn.

Jankulovski spoke exclusively to ASW to answer allegations by recently transferred star Steve Smith that the club was trying to railroad its skipper George Petrov.

Jankulovski also wanted to respond to press speculation about a clean-out of players at the club, come the end of the season.

Rumours that were sparked when top-scorer Smith was recently sold to Brunswick Juventus and Andonovski added fuel to the fire by telling Melbourne's daily press that all the club's players were up for sale.

"No-one is for sale now, and no-one will be given permission to talk to any players until we resolve the coaching situation at the end of the year," Jankulovski told ASW.

"Alex (Andonovski) shouldn't have made any such comments, in fact he should not be commenting at all (to the press)."

It is not his place to do so.

Smith, who has been in the club for five years, its fifth charge of coach and suggestions of further turmoil behind the scenes at Connor Reserve come hot on the trail of the club conceding that a 1990 final berth is no longer possible.

Ace marksman Smith, although sad to leave his club of six years, says that young club skipper George Petrov is another player on the outer and set to go.

"I was left with no alternative but to go," Smith told ASW.

"As for George, I believe the club is trying to get rid of him too."

"To my mind it would do him good to get away because at the moment the pressure is certainly well and truly on him and it's showing."

Petrov was recently suspended for a game by the committee for an alleged breach of discipline when substituted from a match.

Smith, who was on the bench at the time, says Petrov did "nothing out of order."

"I believe that they are trying to get the word out that he is a troublemaker," says Smith.

"It seems they haven't got the courage to tell him that he's not playing well, and that they are thinking of letting him go."

"His substitution was

a heaven sent opportunity for them and they made the most of it."

Smith also went in to bat for former team mate Martin Woodall, who was also set to join Brunswick Juventus just three months after being lured to Connor Reserve for the second

time, at 29, it was time for Smith and the club to part company.

"We were happy with the service he gave us but we had to make a hard decision and we took it," Jankulovski explained.

"But the talk about George (Petrov) is not



George Jolevski gets all his strength behind this clearance for Preston Makedonia.

true and there have been no decisions made about any other players at the club at this stage."

The Preston supremo denied that there was any in-fighting between factions at the club, but he did concede that the instability at the club in recent years had to be rectified.

"I cannot argue with the figures (printed in ASW last week)," he admitted.

"I'd have to agree that there has been an enormous turnover of players and that hasn't been good for the club."

Jankulovski defended his position as president by saying that he had had no part in the sacking of Andon Donceviski, who left after leading the club into the finals last season.

"It was my aim to keep Donceviski and to top up last year's team with one or two quality players," he explained.

"But some at the club didn't agree with me, I left and when different people came into power they decided on which direction to take."

"I take the blame myself because I didn't see the job through as I should have."

Jankulovski, who returned to the presidential post following John Branov's short stint in charge earlier this year, said he agreed that the club had been chasing short term success at the expense of long term plans for the club.

"I hope you will see a difference in that attitude in the next two or three years," Jankulovski said.

"We have to start making plans along the lines South Melbourne did when it cleared out players at the end of 1986."

Jankulovski defended the transfer of Smith from the club saying

"Maybe — that is the impression I am getting."

"The indications are that it might be the case, particularly having seen what has happened to other blokes at the club."

Jankulovski defended the transfer of Smith from the club saying

England's uphill World Cup task

BY MIKE JOHNSON

CAN England in Italy win its second World Cup?

They do have a chance.

They do have good players and a balanced side this time, but the realistic answer still has to be NO!

Non involvement in Europe in recent years has compounded the lack of technical skill which is the great burden all England teams face in international competition.

Ironically, this is the most skilful squad England has ever had available.

It can put on the park Peter Beardsley, John Barnes, Paul Gascoigne, David Rocastle and Chris Waddle.

All of these are gifted ball players, but with the exception of Waddle, who has been playing for Marseille, none of them have had their skills sharpened against the tight marking of top European soccer.

They have been trundling their talent against the more ponderous English defenders, who still play to the looser double centre-back zonal marking

system which, in the face of world-wide contradiction, still predominates throughout England.

It is no coincidence that Marseille's Waddle has been the form player among England's ball players.

He has noticeably improved his sharpness and ability to get past opponents in contrast to Beardsley and Barnes, who continue to disappoint at national team level.

Gascoigne is in danger of suffering the disease Glenn Hoddle suffered with in England for many years — non-international selection because of insufficient defensive qualities.

England seems suspect in defence despite good recent results, with two of its four defenders typically ponderous.

Additionally the flat zonal defence devoid of sweeper, reduces cover and the ability to mark really tight in the way top European defenders usually manage.

It was this weakness which mainly defeated England in the last World Cup.



Peter Beardsley goes forward for England — up to the task?

However, this time round England's defensive record is excellent going into the finals — though its scoring record is not impressive.

Its attackers, particularly Lineker, have found form at the right time.

In fact, when you

look at the team England can put on the park, it is quite impressive.

England, without doubt, is the top soccer playing nation in the world.

The strength of its four full-time professional divisions in the

Football League is unmatched anywhere, as is its part-time non-league set up.

Having travelled the world looking at soccer clubs and soccer nations, I find that no nation can compete with England's infrastructure: its numerous professional clubs and numerous full time and part-time professional coaches and players.

Because of this England should do much better than it does at international level.

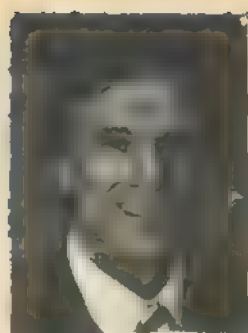
To think that tiny Holland has eclipsed England so often with its national team in re-

cent years is unbelievable.

It speaks well of the Dutch, but condemns England for its inflexible, outmoded, tradition-bound, arrogant attitude to the game they gave to the world.

It is one of the reasons I am opposed to the soccer coaching system we have in Australia installed by an Englishman, and still today run so often by UK personnel using the UK model.

As I mentioned previously in Australian Soccer Weekly — the Australian full badge coaching course treats



primarily the coaching of groups of players from threes and fours up to 11 aside games.

It leaves out almost all of the rest of things critical to the development of a football player and a football team.

England clearly has the best Soccer set-up in the whole wide world.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

POSSIBLE ENGLAND LINE-UP

Shilton (Derby)

Stevens (Everton)

Butcher (Glasgow Rangers)

Parker

Pearce (Notts Forest)

Waddle (Marseille)

Thomas (Arsenal)

or McMahon (Liverpool)

Barnes (Liverpool)

Gascoigne (Tottenham)

Beardsley (Liverpool)

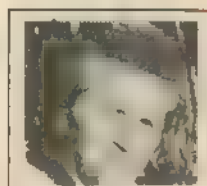
Lineker (Tottenham)

Pacific — Umbro

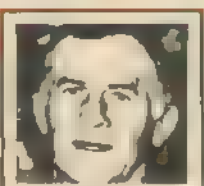


APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

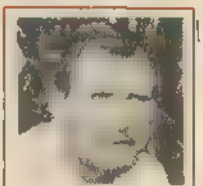
— Soccer Camp



Richard Alagich
Camp Director



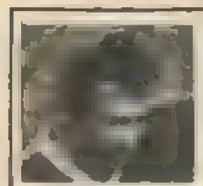
Frank Arok
National Coach



Fred Wall
Camp Manager



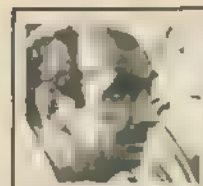
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NSW Amateurs hit paydirt with Wheatley

BY FRANK SCIGLINA

SOCCKER in this country rarely manages to fill its various administrative positions without some degree of controversy arising from one quarter or another.

Many of the appointments in recent years have usually been tinged with suspicion of political or interstate bias, while others have simply been a reward for past services rather than selecting the best possible applicant for a particular job.

That's why I find the recent appointment of Marconi and Socceroo defender Robbie Wheatley to fill the newly created position of full time Promotions and Development Officer for the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation so refreshingly pleasant.

The 27 year old Wheatley is an intelligent and highly articulate school teacher, who appears to be tailor made for such an important role.

He will be given the responsibility of establishing promotional activities throughout the state, and undertake the extensive task of developing soccer in schools with a group of high profile players and coaches.

The elegant Marconi sweeper took up his new duties last week and was full of enthusiasm as he prepared to face the challenge confronting him.

"I'm really looking forward to this," he said.

"It's a program which is full of opportunities and potential."

"I was very impressed by the professional manner with which general manager Cec Bucello and his board went through

the selection process, and they have some really exciting plans for this project".



Robbie Wheatley

There can be very few — if indeed any — objections to Wheatley's appointment and the NSWASF must be commended for its foresight in firstly devising this scheme, then giving the responsibility of getting it off the ground to someone with his credentials and obvious capabilities.

Good on you, Robbie, the NSWASF and yourself deserve the very best of luck.

Marconi on commercial TV

Watch out for an exciting and badly needed new step forward for Australian Soccer!

NSL champions Marconi have taken the plunge into the world of commercial television with advertisements promoting their last two home games against Adelaide City and Preston.

Results from radio commercials on leading FM station 2MMM over the last two years have been highly encouraging, and the club feels that the time is right to attempt a TV campaign.

"We've been pleased with the response obtained from radio," a club official said last week. "Now we want to try television to see what impact

it brings".

Marconi is once again leading the code forward into the 21st century.

It would be nice to think that the NSL can perhaps show the same enterprise by doing likewise for the championship playoffs at the end of the season.

ooo

Demons' troubles

I hate to say it, but I can't help but feel that we could be seeing the beginning of a slide towards oblivion for a club which in the last few years has done its utmost to reach the top echelon of Australian soccer.

Despite its valiant and commendable attempts both on and off the field, Black-

town City just cannot seem to tap the undoubted potential which exists in its own backyard of Sydney's western suburbs.

The club has spent thousands of dollars in signing up a number of big name players including Socceroo captain Charlie Yankos.

It has met all necessary requirements by erecting new flood-



CHARLIE YANKOS

lights and is in the process of constructing a covered grandstand, yet the Demons are struggling to attract much more than 300 fans to their home matches.

Of course their di-

sastrous season which sees them facing certain relegation has not helped, but how long will members of the licenced Blacktown City Soccer Club — which finances most of these activities, be prepared to flog what could be a dead horse, before deciding that enough is enough and vote to only support junior football?

The Demons can never be accused of failing to do everything in their power to achieve success, and it's sad to see so much hard work from so many dedicated people go to waste.

I would be absolutely delighted to be proved wrong.

1990 WORLD CUP SOCCER

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Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . . Chit Chat . . .

Tony Vrzina, now well settled in as the Sydney Croatia coach, is adamant that the Australian Soccer Federation should have approached leading overseas coaches, rather than just advertising in the FIFA journal.

Applications for the position closed on March 31.

Vrzina allows that the ASF could have been in a bind due to limited funds to attract a big timer, but asks: "Why shouldn't there be cases where leading coaches might consider coming to Australia, regardless of the money, due to their interest in the progress of the game?"

ST GEORGE goalkeeper Mike Gibson again injured his knee in a youth league match two weeks ago and fears he could be out for the rest of the season.

Gibson had been sidelined for six months after having his knee reconstructed.

ST GEORGE so often the innovators of the National League, have done it again.

They now employ a sports psychologist.

It seems to work as they trounced Wollongong City 6-0 a fortnight ago to just about ensure safety from relegation.

ADELAIDE City coach Zoran Matic is deeply concerned by the scheduling of the Top Five Series and Cup ties.

The Top Five elimination and preliminary finals are fixed for Sunday, April 29 — only four days after the scheduled NSL Cup final.

"The playoff schedule is not fair for teams still in the Cup," said Matic. "We play South Melbourne on April 11 and if we get through to the final it will be on April 25 just before the first do or die playoff games."

"It is unfair to expect tears in the cup to have to face two such important games so close together. We shall voice our objection to this. It perhaps is about time we got people making up the programs that have played the game."

"You cannot just turn players on and off like the radio. I don't see why the cup final cannot be played after the play-off series."

Matic will take part in a Sportsmed SA meeting on Wednesday, April 18. But he will make no grandiose claims. "I'll just talk about the way I see coaching," he said. "There is no formula for successful coaching. If there was everyone would buy the book."

The talk around Blacktown City's popular licensed club at Seven Hills is that the soccer club is down but not out.

Officials maintain they will gather a side together that will win the winter NSW State League and thus be back in the national league for the 1990/91 summer season.



Zlatko Nastevski

Zlatko Nastevski's broken leg ruined the present season — one in which he was aiming to again top the NSL goalscorers.

As it stands he is making good progress, and he is determined to be back on the job for the 1990/91 season.

Meanwhile ASW Australia's leading soccer weekly newspaper, welcomes Zlatko as a columnist.

His weekly piece will get to the core of Australian football and be greatly welcomed by the fans.

Sydney Croatia will make use of their presence in the NSW State League competition by trying out the creative midfielder they need for the 1990/91 NSL season.

They will bring out Damir Petravic, 24, a midfielder who has been well under the eye of Dinamo Zagreb and who has been appearing with the Zagreb club in the Croatian League.

By testing him out this winter Croatia will know if he really has the goods.

Requests for copies of "Coaching Overview" have increased markedly since it was mentioned favourably in Australian Soccer Weekly. Edited by Barry Davis, it is a must for coaches at all levels. Obtain your copy from Vince Balzan on 639 1093 (after hours).

Adelaide this season could play host to the NSL's two major finals.

Should Adelaide City beat South Melbourne on Wednesday in the NSL Cup semi-final and Apia was to edge out Olympic in the other, Hindmarsh would have the inside running for the cup final.

Apia has a notoriously poor support and a far bigger crowd would be attracted in Adelaide where City last season beat Olympic for the crown.

With ABC TV bringing in crews for the annual NSL awards night on May 26 the next day's scheduled second leg of the Top Five grand final also could be arranged for Hindmarsh — if Adelaide City was to qualify.

QNSL chief Peter Russell, in launching the awards night, also laid to rest claims that the NSL Cup did not carry prizemoney.

The winner receives \$10,000 and a share of gate receipts.

BHP Austral, the ambitious flagship club for Newcastle playing in the NSW State League, will play all its home games on Saturday, reports publicity man Eddie Boards.

The main games will kick off at Austral Park at 2.30pm, preceded by the under 19 Youth League fixture at 12.30pm.

Heidelberg has formed a special sub-committee to raise funds for and handle all negotiations for the installa-



Dr Kohl kicks off at the historic soccer match between a team made up of players from both Germanys and a combined Rest of the World — AFP picture

tion of an \$80,000 floodlighting system at Olympic Village. The club is hoping to finalise its plans in the next few weeks and have the lighting in place in time for the next QNSL season. Naturally the Bergers hope to be back in the big time by then...

PRESTON have denied rumours coach Ljube Jancev will be replaced by erstwhile supreme Andon Doncevi next season.

The club says it will only make a definite decision on Jancev's future when the committee hears his plans for next year.

Melbourne Croatia skipper Josip Biskic has returned to Melbourne and will be trying to fight his way back into the Croatia side destined to play in the finals. But Biskic has admitted to the Melbourne 'Sun' that his future is uncertain following the death of his brother in a car accident two weeks ago. On news of his brother's death Biskic rushed back to Yugoslavia to be with friends and family. He

returned to Melbourne in time for Croatia's derby game with South Melbourne but, according to the 'Sun', he is still visibly shattered by the untimely death.

STAR Adelaide City import Milan Ivanovich's contract reportedly is up for renewal at the end of the season.

He looks sure to resign — if City can come up with the kind of attractive package the class sweeper wants.

Helen Delforce, who was very well known for her assistance to the media and the public, has resigned from her position as secretary to Australian Soccer Federation general secretary, Alan Vessey.

A former secretary of the Northern NSW Soccer Federation, she has returned with her husband to her home city of Newcastle for a life of domestic bliss.

The best wishes of the many friends she has made go with her.

Her replacement, Fay Kristy, is widely

known for her publicity and administration work for St George and the licensed St George Budapest Soccer Club Ltd at Mortdale.

Fans who have attended matches at St George Stadium will be quite familiar with hearing her announcements over the years on the PA system.



ABC-TV made a huge splash with the transfer of **THE BIG**

MATCH to Monday nights on Channel 2 at 10.15pm. John Bell

and resident expert John Kosmina were on the ball with their comments.

The camera work was excellent, and there were clips from all Quit NSL games. The popular English program has

been transferred to Thursday nights, with a replay at 1.05pm on Saturdays.



Adcity's Zoran Matic raises concerns

Morwell hits straps to pull one back at the expense of Brunswick Juve

BY VLADO VLAHOVIC

MORWELL FALCONS 3 JUVENTUS 1

LAST season's top guns Morwell Falcons and Brunswick Juventus met for the first time in 1990 and again the honors went to champions Morwell by a comfortable 3-1 scoreline at Morwell last Saturday.

Both sides harbour NSL aspirations with Juventus perhaps the more desperate in its yearning but again 'Juve' is unstuck and is languishing in the lower reaches of the ladder with only one victory from six matches.

But it is a long season and a quick return to form and Juve's depth might prove beneficial in the final analysis.

Juve coach Robert Vieri on a \$37,000 contract, is reported to be on the way out to make way for former Sunshine George Cross coach John Gardiner but the move was not completed as we went to press.

Recent Preston signing Steve Smith continued his sharpshooting form of late with his new side, Juve, after he opened the scoring in the first half but little Liffie Cassar equalised just before the break.

Morwell eventually wore down its tough opponents with two further goals one of which was converted from the penalty spot by Jerry Clarke rewarded by referee John Rutter.

Veteran Jim Nelson knocked home Morwell's third and final clinching goal to savor an important victory.

Juventus' wee striker Charlie Egan missed a great chance to add a second goal for his side but his spotkick was well saved by 'keeper Dave Reynolds.

CAULFIELD 1 BOX HILL 0

Last season's leading sharp shooter Con Pappas scored his first goal for the season to give his new side, Caulfield City a valuable 1-0 victory over lowly Box Hill last Saturday.

Box Hill supporters would be disappointed their side couldn't convert a lot of possession into something more penetrating and positive.

However, Caulfield supporters would be relieved former Heidelberg striker Pappas finally found the back of the net after several near misses to date.

Both sides hit the upright, firstly, Pappas followed by the Hillmen's Archie McGeachy but Pappas' vital breakthrough after 30 minutes turned out to be the difference.



PETER LAUMETS

The winning goal was a piece of Pappas class a fine low left-foot swipe into the near corner of the net beating Box Hill 'keeper Con Kotsicis, who had no chance as it went in off the post.

CROYDON CITY 2 ALBION 0

Croydon City continued its winning ways to stay at the 'top of the tree' after a solid 1-0 win over last week's nearest rivals Albion Turk-Gurcu.

Croydon's sealer arrived at the 41st minute when forward Dave Keepac whipped a cross to the far post where Nick van Egmond finished the move off from close range.

Ian Dobson's boys continue to impress and have yet to concede a goal after six rounds which would be some sort of record.

Croydon's victory over Albion was made even more impressive after it was reduced to 10 men when veteran Greg Brack was sent-off for an incident behind play involving Don MacLeod at about the 49th minute.

To its credit, Croydon never gave up and continued to press forward in numbers. Albion sorely missed two of its best players, former Green Gully star Steve Douglas and veteran Gordon Flavell but it still gave a good account.

Croydon coach Dobson is naturally pleased with his charges especially because they are playing well as a unit. He also believes his side is more mobile up front compared to last year due mainly to the acquisition of David Klepac, currently leading the goalscorers list.

Also, Box Hill signing Stuart McArthur, a midfielder is giving Croydon plenty of drive from that all important arch of the park.

FRANKSTON PINES 0 MOOROOLBARK 2

Mooroolbark clinched only its second victory of the season against bottom side Frankston Pines after a 2-0 win last Sunday.

For about an hour, both sides were evenly matched with Pines trio, Steve Keenan, Martin Bozic and 'keeper Neil especially dominant.

But just when it appeared Pines would get a grip in proceedings, Mooroolbark were rewarded with a penalty against the run of play which was converted by Reid.

The goal tore the heart out of Pines and the 'Barries' made certain of victory in the dying minutes from a fine David Brogan effort.

FAWKNER 5 ST ALBANS 1

Fawkner won its third game in a week after totally demolishing an out-of-sorts St Albans 5-1.

Young 18-year-old striker Sam Emanuelle scored twice in the opening few minutes after some terrible defensive blunders to give Fawkner a dream start.

St Albans was living its worst nightmare as its opposition proceeded to clear it apart for the whole 90 minutes.

Former Heidelberg midfielder Claude Lucchesi added a third. Danny Stefancevic signed from First Division Port Melbourne and midfielder Alex

Blagojovic signed from First Division Westgate completed the rout.

Fawkner coach Cedo Cirkovic, is rapt with his cheap buys from the lower divisions but is also more than happy with the signing of champion veteran Zravko Lujic from Bulleen.

Cirkovic said, "34-year old Lujic is still running around like a 20 year-old and playing superbly for his new side."

GREEN GULLY 2 NORTHCOTE 1

Ambitious Northcote City went down for the second time in five days after losing 1-2 to even consistent Green Gully.

It was a match of two halves with Gully dominant in the first and led 1-0 at the break.

A Jeff Laukner free kick found striker Kevin Harrison who nodded home a close range header to open the account.

Northcote equalised during its second half period of dominance when it broke down the right and through collective pressure forced an own goal.

Gully was rather fortunate to get away with a victory especially considering its winner arrived right on full-time.

Tom Dally broke away on a counter attack and beat one defender before finishing with a clinical strike.

BULLEEN 1 THOMASTOWN 3

Thomastown showed its Italian rivals Bulleen how to finish moves in its 3-1 victory, played in an open, attacking fashion in front of a good crowd.

Bulleen must have wondered how it didn't at least gain a point from a match it never looked like losing.

Long throws into the area gave Thomastown some headaches but Bulleen's finishing on the day let it down.

Bulleen also hit the post twice which didn't help matters. Dominic Ruccia and midfielder Anthony Grbal were the unfortunates.

Former speedy Geelong City striker Darren Tuck was the only lethal Bulleen forward, scoring a fine goal but he also missed a couple of good chances. However Tuck always looked dangerous. On a positive note, Bulleen will have key players, Claude Avian and Fab Angele back from injury within the next week or so to boost its depleted stocks.

HEIDELBERG 2 ALTONA 0

Heidelberg, appears to be finding some form after its second victory in a week when it defeated Altona Gate 2-0 last Sunday.

The Bergers first goal arrived via a Phil Stubbins header after an error from Altona 'keeper Stuart Lee.

The second goal came about in more controversial circumstances when veteran striker Paul Lewis appeared to be in an offside position.

Referee Barry Grant initially blew his whistle for offside but after consulting his linesman he changed his mind and awarded the goal much to the dismay of the state Altona players and spectators.

Altona gave a good account of itself even though Heidelberg deserved its victory. Unfortunately Altona recently lost two players, defender George Gagic to Albion and another defender Darren Byrne to Northcote.

Altona is expected to be more competitive when midfielder general Vlado Tortevski, Bobby McMirowski and Jimmy Kebakovski return from injury within the next couple of weeks.

Altona is also set to sign a striker and stopper with NSL experience to off-set its recent losses.

MELB JUST 3 RINGWOOD 0

Melbourne JUST scored its most convincing win for the 1990 campaign to date when it steamrolled Ringwood 3-0 at Schintler Reserve on Sunday.

JUST opened its account in the 26th minute when upcoming champion Sasha Becvinovski scored with a spectacular far post header.

Ringwood keeper Colin Blakely denied JUST a second goal just after half time with a remarkable save off Nick Naumovski and minutes later Becvinovski hit the woodwork for the home side.

But both Naumovski and Becvinovski made amends for their misses with the latter scoring number two in the 76th minute and Naumovski adding a third three minutes from full time.

VIC STATE LEAGUE

Croydon City	6	0	0	8	0	12
Thomastown	6	4	2	0	3	8
Green Gully	6	4	1	1	0	9
Fawkner	6	4	1	1	0	9
Albion	6	3	2	1	6	8
Heidelberg	6	3	2	1	0	7
Bulleen	6	3	1	1	8	7
Northcote City	6	3	0	3	9	6
Morwell Falcons	6	2	2	4	8	6
Melbourne JUST	6	2	2	2	9	6
Ringwood City	6	3	0	3	9	6
Caulfield City	6	2	1	3	4	7
Brunswick Juventus	6	1	2	7	7	4
St Albans	6	1	1	3	8	4
Mooroolbark	6	2	0	4	6	4
Altona Gate	6	1	4	6	1	3

Box Hill 6 0 1 5 5 4 1
Frankston Pines 6 0 1 5 2 3 1

WEEKEND RESULTS

Caulfield 1 (Pappas) Box Hill 0 Morwell Falcons 3 (E. Cassar, J. Clarke, Nelson) Juventus 1 (Smith), Croydon City 1 (van Egmond) Albion 0 Heidelberg 2 (Stubbins, Lewis) Altona Gate 0 Bulleen 1 (Tuck) Tienen 3 (Hennessey, McAlear, Murphy), G. Gully 2 (Harrison, Daley) Northcote 1 (G.J.), Melb JUST 3 (Becvinovski 2, Naumovski) R.wood 0 Fawkner 5 (Emanuelle 2, Lucchesi, Stefancevic, Blagojovic) St Albans 1 (Eres, pen) Frankston Pines 0 Mooroolbark 2 (Brogan, Reid)

LEADING SCORERS

Kiepac (Croydon) 4 Livingstone (Bulleen) 4 Mills (Northcote) 3 McMirowski (Altona Gate) 3 MacLeod (Box Hill) 3 Becvinovski Melb JUST 3

THIS WEEKEND GAMES

Altona Gate v Croydon, Caulfield City v Bulleen, Northcote City v Melbourne JUST, Mooroolbark v Green Gully, Altona v Fawkner, Box Hill v Mooroolbark, Ringwood City v Morwell Falcons, Albion v Frankston Pines, St Albans v Juventus.

Golfers

FOLLOWING the success of the inaugural Soccer Golf Day last year, organisers Sportsforce International have teed up another.

The classic Outlands Golf Course at Dundas will be the scene for some top small ball play on Tuesday May 1, with a 9am to 12 noon tee off.

Some great prizes have been obtained, the winners will be visiting the fabulous Fairmont Resort at Leura and a lucky, or skillful, hole in one will provide a trip for two to Bangkok flying first class with Thai Airways International.

Wheatley's priorities being formulated

NEWLY appointed NSW Amateurs promotion and development officer Robert Wheatley took no time to set himself up in his new job.

Speaking from the Amateur's office in the NSW Federation complex at Valentine Park he said: "My first job is to finalise a team of players who will make calls on schools, branches, associations and clubs."

"I am not only talking about Sydney — the Federation's responsibilities cover the whole state, so we must go as far as we can."

"Then I must lay out

the basis of the survey to keep up — and where possible improve — our numbers, and increase standard of play."

"I am sure associations and clubs can be helped to improve their recruiting drives for youngsters for 1991."

Wheatley, the former Socceroo and currently the sweeper of Quil National Soccer League club Marconi, will improve the links with primary and secondary schools.

He will be identifying new areas for recruitment and those for redevelopment in conjunction with district associations.

Result Round 5

Heidelberg 3 (Lewis, Gouzioulis, Herd) St Albans 2 (Gagula own goal) Fawkner 1 (Stefancevic) Northcote City 0

State League club Fawkner is trying to sign Brunswick Juventus goalkeeper Pat Marrama

NSW ROUND ROBIN

NSW Austral	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Warrimoh-F. water	5	3	2	0	10	4	8
North Shore Old	5	1	3	1	5	5	5
Canterbury-M. vills	5	2	1	2	5	5	5
Avoca	5	1	2	2	7	4	4
Polonia	5	1	2	2	7	4	4

GROUP B

P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Canberra Croatia	4	3	0	13	5	6
Wollongong Maca	4	2	1	7	4	5
Sydney Mace	4	1	2	6	3	3
Sutherland Shore	4	1	2	3	6	3
Inter-Monaro	4	1	2	3	7	3



ALAN CLARK REVIEWS

The Soccer Scene
in . . .

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INJURED Azzurri stars Steve Hutchins and John Panagis are progressing slowly along the comeback trail.

Hutchins seriously injured a knee and Panagis had a severe hamstring problem.

Both are making headway but are unlikely to play again this week against Hellas.

SOCCER soon will be in the spotlight at the Edinburgh Castle Hotel in Adelaide.

New licensee Tom Lamont and his brother Charlie, who play with Blacktown in the Second Division, have taken over the hostelry.

They aim to make it a soccer man's pub — so watch developments.

PORT Adelaide United has pulled off a coup by appointing Zoran Maricic as player coach.

Maricic previously led Croatia to the title as a player-coach and looks to have the credentials to do a job with bottom of the league Port.

He moves to SA's oldest club after a second spell with Hellas.

YOUTH Socceron hopeful Chris Flaherty slowly is making the transition from junior to senior soccer with Birkalla Eagles.

He has found the net regularly so far this season after making his senior debut in Birkalla's Ampol Cup loss to Croatia.

Couch Neil McGachey is well pleased with the 17-year-old who could face a year of high-flying commitments if he makes the young 'Roo squad for World Cup commitments.

ADELAIDE City State League coach Buggy Nyskohus has called on referees to help protect his skilful young players who are making a big impression this season.

"Carlo Talladira, in particular, is being hacked down all the time. I don't mind hard tackles but some of the stuff that has been going on is uncalled for.

"Referees should be looking after the ball players."

A MAJOR northern suburbs firm has given substantial sponsorship backing to Salisbury United.

Direct Hardware have agreed to back the ambitious club which is one of the best in SA at fostering and developing young soccer talent.

The latest Berry youngster to catch the eye is 14-year-old Paul Agostino, who already has been on the first team card.

SALISBURY was unbeaten in the first three games since new coach Bob Wincer took over — but he was not in charge for two.

Wincer replaced Eric Norman as coach of the Bernes but then missed a League and West End Premier Cup clash with Adelaide City because of a work seminar.

Salisbury drew both matches. Spectacular goals from Tony Gasparetto and impressive Paul Simmons saved the Cup day against City.

In an earlier West End tie last Wednesday, the teenage stars of Elizabeth City and Seaford really caught the eye.

FORMER FIFA referee, now Adelaide Croatia coach, Donald Campbell is such a stickler for discipline you could imagine his disappointment last week when he had two players sent off in the tense derby clash with Beograd.

The fact both were from totally indisciplined acts just added salt to the wounds.

SA SOCCER Federation general manager Mike Wells has refuted claims from QNSL boss Peter Russell that Hellas can field its full NSL side in the State competition should it be relegated from the elite league.

Russell had said Hellas could field its full NSL squad here seven days after being relegated.

But Wells confirmed, under an SA by-law, only three Hellas players from the last NSL card could be fielded at any one time in the State competition.

The only loophole would be if Hellas in its last QNSL game was to field a team of younger players.



Adelaide City's Milan Ivanovich, Paul Shillabeer and Charley Vilani take off against Sunshine last month — JANUSZ KAMMA photo.

Dolan's career over!

A spirited comeback by Grange Thistle's favourite son, midfielder Steve Dolan, has ended.

Dolan, 31, has gone back into retirement after tearing a thigh muscle in the XXXX pre-season competition. He ended his attempted comeback on the advice of a specialist.

"The doctor told me that if I was 19, I would have an operation and be out for a year," Dolan said. "I'm a bit older than that, so I think it's time to hang up the boots."

Dolan, rated by many as the finest midfielder produced by Queensland, coached Thistle for the past two seasons. He willingly handed over the reins to longtime friend and Queensland coaching legend Matt Carson this season.

Carson had hoped to use Dolan as a key player in the young Thistle squad.

"It's a shame we won't have Steve's experience to help, but I guess that's the way things go," Carson said. "I've got a lot of youth to work with and not having him out there is a big loss."

Thistle have had an indifferent start to a season club officials are hoping will be an improvement on their recent lowly places in the XXXX League.

The Grange side caused an upset by beating Lions in the XXXX pre-season competition, but lost its opening two fixtures.

Despite their youth, the Thistle side has plenty of XXXX League experience, largely due to Dolan's policy of giving the youngster a chance several seasons ago.

The team includes former Rothman's medalist Keith Marsh and former State youth representatives Tony Sommerville and Jason Millican.

Thistle also have three Islander players, Fijians Sam Work and Mohammed Ayub and the exciting Jacob Moli from the Solomon Islands.

Carson believes he can make the Thistle outfit competitive if the players concentrate on the basics.

"Our approach is to keep things simple and score goals," he said.

— GREG RUSSELL

ACT U12s float trials

YOUNG hopefuls trying out for the ACT under 12 representative team turned up at North Curtin Oval recently to take part in selection trials.

The ACT does not normally field teams in this age group, but this year has accepted an invitation to take part in the Commonwealth Bank Centenary tournament in Sydney from April 17 to 20.

ACTSF office manager Imogen Cook said teams from district associations all over NSW and one from Northern Tasmania had accepted invitations to take part.

"Eligible players must have been born after August 1, 1977," she said.

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Paul Halford's trouble hinders Gold Coast

BY GREG RUSSELL

DEFENDING intercity champions, the Gold Coast Gamblers, are set to retain their title after a successful country tour.

But the Gamblers are anxiously awaiting a report on the fitness of key player Paul Halford, who missed the tour.

The New Zealand international injured his knee at training.

"I was just running along and it locked," Halford said. "I don't know how long I will be out."

Halford's absence, and the unavailability of fellow Gamblers squad members Gary French, Rodney Lumb and Kevin Bradley, allowed coach Jim Selby to experiment on the tour.

The Gamblers beat Hervey Bay 6-0 and the Sunshine Coast 3-1.

"It was a great tour, on and off the field," Selby said.

"We got a few things worked out on the park while the promotions we did in conjunction with the tour were a huge hit.

"I don't think the boys have signed so many autographs."

The Gamblers, who won the Intercity title last year on goal difference, will open their campaign against Toowoomba, who will be under the guidance of new regional director of coaching, Peter Kelly.

Kelly, who played State League for Bundaberg, moved to the downs recently after a stint as the Mackay director of coaching.

"The people in Toowoomba are very positive in both the junior and senior ranks," he said.

Kelly has enlisted the aid of local coach Barry Frank in the selection of the Toowoomba team, which not surprisingly is based on the City's top clubs, second division sides St Albans and Willowburn.

The attacking spearhead is expected to be the former Rochdale Rovers striker Gary Carter, who transferred in his work to Toowoomba two years ago.

Kelly's move to Toowoomba looms as another step in his gradual but seemingly certain elevation to a major Queensland coaching position.

"I think the time had come to move closer to Brisbane," he said.

"I've got a lot to do in Toowoomba, but hopefully I'll also have some time to get involved with things in Brisbane, and in particular work with Bruce Stowell (the state director)."

Kelly, who holds an ASF level 3 badge, has recently returned from a learning tour of West Germany and the United Kingdom, and hopes one day to attend one of the famed West German coaching courses.

"I'm still learning German. Until I speak it well enough to understand everything that is being said, it will be more of a long term goal," he said.

Last season for Steve Bryant

BY GRAHAM COOKE

FORMER Canberra City defender Steve Bryant has resigned himself to the fact this will probably be his last playing season — but he is desperate to continue in the game as a coach.

Bryant had not formally committed himself to any team when I spoke to him, but he has been playing and training throughout the pre-season with NSW League Inter Monaro "and I will probably come to terms with them."

He makes no secret of the fact he would rather have finished his career at a higher level, "but I have resigned myself to the fact my playing will not exactly end with a bang."

"My real desire is to get into coaching (he had a short spell as player-coach of Canberra City in the NSL) and to put some of the knowledge I have gained over the years back into the game."

The proud father of Daniel (4) says one of his biggest regrets is that his son will have no memories of him playing at the top level.

Never one to mince his words, Bryant says soccer has been left behind in Canberra.

"That is why the Raiders are playing on what was once the best soccer pitch in the country, and the Cannons can raise twice the gates of Canberra Croatia or Inter Monaro."

"There are some glimmers of hope. People like Steve Darby locally, and Eddie Thomson on the national scene are working hard to improve things, but the only real chance in the ACT is for a winning team in the National League."

In the meantime, the man who was once feared by the best strikers in the land will buckle down to the business he likes best in the green and black of Inter Monaro in 1990.

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EASTERN SUBURBS SOCCER REFEREES' ASSOCIATION

Greer, Collins, Mengotti — Brisbane reps

BY GREG RUSSELL

BRISBANE coach Mal Bland has adopted an all-or-nothing approach to the intercity series by naming a 15-man squad which includes just five recognised defenders.

"It is based on an attacking match plan I have in mind," Bland said.

Not surprisingly, the squad includes nine members of the Queensland team which toured the United States in February.

The squad also features nine players who were in Bland's Brisbane team last year.

But as has been his policy in the past, Bland also has made several surprise selections in his bid to give state coach Bruce Stowell selection alternatives before he finalises his State of Origin squad.

Young Rochdale defender-midfielder Stu Greer and Nippy Easts winger Craig Collins have been rewarded for their efforts in the pre-season tournament, which were the official intercity selection trials.

Bland said Greer was included as he suited the attacking format he was likely to use in the opening round match against Ipswich.

Collins returns to the Brisbane team after making his debut two years ago before heading overseas to trial with several clubs.

"I liked what I saw when Craig first played for me and I have liked what I have seen since he got back," Bland said.

Bland also has resurrected the representative careers of Lions' \$25,000 defender Frank Mengotti.

After playing for Brisbane last year, Mengotti was overlooked for the first interstate game, then was named as a replacement for the injured Arno Bertogna, but never got on the field when the match was washed out.

A serious groin injury ruled Mengotti out of the inaugural State of Origin match and the US tour.

Mengotti admitted the injury was still not 100 percent but no longer prevented him from kicking.

"It still hurt after a game but I am determined to keep on going until it goes again," he said.

"It's a pretty impressive representative season this year and I'm keen to get my place back."

The only setback for

Bland was the withdrawal of one of his first choice goalkeepers, Mount Gravatt's Stu Woodruffe.

The Ipswich team also features brothers John and Andy Ogden while young goalkeepers Darren

rewards for his impressive pre-season displays.

The Ipswich squad is: Darren McGrath, Phil



ALAN MCFARLANE — in the Ipswich squad.

Woodruffe, who toured the US with the Queensland team, has his wrist in plaster after x-rays showed broken bones in his hand.

Woodruffe, who had complained of pain for several weeks, cannot remember injuring his hand although the injury may be linked to diving on the indoor surfaces while on tour.

Woodruffe has been replaced in the squad by Brisbane City's Wayne Evans, a former Queensland and Brisbane representative who was unlucky to miss original intercity selection on his pre-season form.

The Brisbane team is: Rob Farrow, Frank Mengotti, Andrew Stowell, Nick Meredith (Lions), Frank Pimblett, Keiran Cooper, Wayne Evans (City), Stew Grudum, Craig Collins, Bill McDermott (Easts), Clayton Koch (Pine Rivers), Michael Mulvey, Jim McDonagh (North Star), Stu Greer (Rochdale), Alan Niven (Mt Gravatt).

Not surprisingly, Ipswich coach Gordon Arrowsmith based his squad on the Coalstars team which beat North Star on penalties in the final of the XXXX Pre-season Cup. The Bundamba club has 11 of the 15-man squad.

Arrowsmith has included Coalstars player-coach Mark Brusasco, who has been battling a knee injury.

REGIONAL NEWS

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McGrath and Jason Lucas get the chance to make their intercity debut.

Exciting young Coalstars striker Michael Babic also was

Kerr, John Ogden, Andy Ogden, Mark Gilbert, Peter Vogler, Michael Babic, Stu Weston, Alan McFarlane, Glen van der Ryken, Mark Brusasco (Coalstars), Jason Lucas, Randall McKeand, Brad Smith, Nev O'Sullivan.

Dream NSW Cup draws

BY GRAHAM COOKE

CANBERRA Croatia and Inter Monaro have received dream draws in the NSW State League Challenge Cup.

Both will play just one of their five preliminary round games outside the ACT area as part of the NSWSL policy of avoiding clashes with the closing stages of the ONSL season — something which will certainly aid Croatia's bid to retain the trophy it won at the Melita Stadium a year ago.

The two clubs were drawn together in Group A and kicked off with a money-spinning local derby at Deakin Oval on Sunday, April 1.

This is followed by Saturday April 7, Inter Monaro v Warringah Freshwater (Marco Polo Ground); Sunday April 8, Canberra Croatia v Polonia (Deakin Oval); Saturday, April 14, Inter Monaro v Rockdale Hindon (Marco Polo Ground); Sunday, April 15, Canberra Croatia v Warringah Freshwater (Deakin Oval); Sunday, April 21, Canberra Croatia v Canterbury (Deakin Oval), in-

ter Monaro v Polonia (Marco Polo Ground), Sunday, April 29, Rockdale Hindon v Canberra Croatia (Hurstville Oval), Canterbury v Inter Monaro (Arlington Oval).

White Eagles' poor start in Tassie

BY WALTER PLESS

WHITE Eagles, the Cadbury State League champion, struggled to defeat Caledonian 3-1 in the opening round of the Cadbury League Section of the Cascade Summer Cup competition in southern Tasmania.

Caledonian, under new coach Ian Parker, showed tremendous commitment in the opening half and refused to be overawed by its highly-rated opponent.

Calies' speed and determination had Eagle worried from the start, and the champion's concern was borne out after only five minutes when Parker smashed a tremendous shot against Peter Groenewoud's crossbar.

Only minutes later, Groenewoud was at full stretch as he turned another effort against a post.

Eagle's first real attack came in the 18th minute as Calies full-back Jason Goodsell was forced to clear Craig Pitt's shot off the line.

Calies took the lead in the 25th minute, following a free kick from the left by midfielder Greg Calvert. As the ball floated in, Eagle midfielder Dominic O'Brien was adjudged to have pushed Calies' marauding cen-

tre-back, Peter Huigslout, and referee John Howlin had no hesitation in pointing to the penalty spot.

Calvert promptly stepped up and placed a firm shot to the left of Groenewoud, who had launched himself to his right.

The first half ended with Eagle striker Franco Previdi missing a good chance at the far post from Bob Nicholson's cross from the left.

Eagle was definitely missing the speed and tenacity of strikers Richard Leszczynski and Brett Harwood.

Leszczynski, who has ranked as the club's leading scorer in the past, has retired prematurely at the age of 23, while Harwood, the club's leading scorer last season and the second highest scorer in the State, is seeking a move to Hobart Juventus.

Coach Eugene Mycak brought on midfielders David Stoddart and Neil Morrison, both of whom were carrying slight injuries, for the second half and the tactic ultimately proved successful.

Scott Young equalised for Eagle in the 68th minute following a neat crossfield build-up, but Parker and Brett Murtagh missed glorious chances for Calies.

Murtagh should have done much better with a free header from

Richard Ketchell's cross two minutes after the interval, while Parker blazed high over the bar in the 69th minute with the goal at his mercy.

With three minutes remaining, Stoddart headed Morrison's corner past Glen Stewart in the Calies goal, while in injury-time, substitute Julian Tattersall made it 3-1 by knocking in Morrison's cross from the left.

Defending cup holder, Hobart Juventus, made light work of disposing of Croatia-Glenorchy 6-1 in the evening's opening match.

Steve Walker, Juventus's new signing from New Zealand, hit a hat-trick on his debut, while Sergio Pace scored twice.

Frank Genovesi made it 6-0 immediately after the resumption and it wasn't until the 78th minute that John Bilac put Brendan Lakoseljac, the former Juventus youngster, through the middle for a fine Croatian consolation goal.

Ken Morton's new club, Olympia-SBT Bank, had the bye.

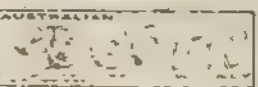
Cascade Summer Cup (Cadbury League Section) Hobart Juventus 6 (Walker 3, Pace 2, Genovesi) Croatia-Glenorchy 1 (Lakoseljac), White Eagle 3 (Young, Stoddart, Tattersall) Caledonian 1 (Calvert, pen).

ACROSS THE WAVES SOCCER CLUB, BUNDABERG



Across the Waves certainly made some waves of their own in the 1989 season, and will be well on the trail of more this year. Their 1989 honours were: A Grade: League premiers, Charity Cup winners, grand finalists. B Grade: Federation Cup Winners, Grand final winners. U17 Youth Div: Ideal Cup Winners, Grand Final winners. The club's coaches were Jim Markness, John Wood, and Ian Clarke.

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Apia hold off 10 man Olympic

BY DAVID COOPER

APIA Leichhardt held off a spirited Sydney Olympic who were reduced to 10 men for more than half the game, to win 3-2 at Lambert Park on Sunday.

In very humid conditions, the game took off at a fast pace and in the first 10 minutes there was five shots at either goal. The first goal came in the 23rd minute when Badrov handled the ball in the area and the spot-kick, after a re-take, was converted by Antony Franze.

Ten minutes later, APIA broke through the midfield and Beaufils sent a splendid ball to Lahanas on the right. His low cross found Reda who made no mistake from eight metres for the second goal.

The game took a different complexion when Seratore was sent-off near the end of the first half leaving Olympic with 10 men and trailing by two goals.

Olympic's task was made even harder when one minute into the second half, Martinich was pushed off the ball in the area resulting in another penalty which Franze calmly slotted away for his second.

To their credit, Olympic did not give up and were rewarded for their efforts, when in the space of four minutes they received two penalties. Eric Hristodoulou converted both, the second after he rounded two defenders and was brought down when about to shoot.

APIA nearly paid for their complacency when

Cardozo in a gallant effort just failed to get hold of a Hristodoulou cross which had the APIA goalkeeper well beaten.

Best players for APIA were Reda, Pettinon and Laharas, and for Olympic Panson, Cardozo and Badrov played well.

APIA: Hughes, Franze, Dihm, Pettinon, Granata, Lahanas (Mides), Reyes, Reda, Gulic, Martinich, (Keogh), Beaufils. OLYMPIC: Refenes, Panson, Seratore, Badrov, Gergopoulos, Hristodoulou, Pontidas, Sharpey, Papagiorgiou, Arauto (Jerkovic), Carozzo.

AIS v SYDNEY CROATIA

The Institute continued their run of massive wins with a 9-0 demolition of Sydney Croatia at the Croatian Sports Centre in Canberra on Saturday.

The AIS opened the scoring in the 5th minute when Kris Trajanovski beat three defenders with a fine run before laying the ball across for Steven Corica to score.

Trajanovski was on the scoresheet for the Institute's next two goals. In the 9th minute he headed home a for post cross from Scott Wells and in the 23rd minute he scored with a great volley in a crowded penalty area.

A sloppy backpass gave Corica his second of the game when he easily rounded the keeper and dribbled the ball into goal in the 35th minute.

A quick break by Trajanovski down the right three minutes later saw him pass to George Sor-



Adelaide City and Young Socceroo prospect Charlie Veart (in stripes) swings a mean leg in the Sunshine game at Hindmarsh Stadium — Pic Jansz Kamma.

ras, who after beating a defender, squared the ball for Shane Block to take them into the break with an insurmountable 5-0 lead.

The second half saw more of the same from the AIS as they completely dominated play, scoring another four times. They came from Corica (51st minute) an own goal (57th minute), Trajanovski (60th minute) and Hillier (75th minute).

One interesting statistic to come from the last four AIS games is that there have been six hat-tricks scored. One each to George Sorras and Steve Corica with Kris Trajanovski having scored four in four games.

AIS: Talia, Stanton, Wells, Koliba (Bizimouski 45th min), Romanuk, Sorras, Cranney (Hillier 53rd min), Corica, Trajanovski.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Kraljovic (Kalic 45th min), Vrlc, Zizic (Williams 45m), Bojkovski, Milicevic, Manic, Bozanj, Elek, Bazdaric (Slipic 45th), Allouic, Prulic.

— PETER KONSTO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	14	9	4	1	41	11	22
APIA	14	7	5	2	17	13	19
Marconi	15	6	4	5	23	22	16
Blacktown City	14	5	3	6	17	13	13
St George	13	5	3	5	16	16	13
Melita	12	5	2	5	14	20	12
Syd Olympic	14	5	1	8	20	21	11
Wollongong	13	4	2	7	14	20	10
Syd Croatia	13	3	2	8	15	8	8

LEADING SCORERS: Trajanovski AIS 17, Sorras AIS 8, Poric St George 7.

SEMI-FINAL OF YL CUP

ST GEORGE: Freestone 25th min, Petrides 55th, Poric 80th min.

BLACKTOWN: McArdle 83rd min.

In the only other game on the weekend, St George dominated for most of the match, however Blacktown had their chances but failed to take them.

ST GEORGE: Satin, Gantin, Augerina off, Harragi, Milkevic, Poric, Egposito off 1, Jarvis, Freestone, Rakakios, Petrolis, Adioski on, Savoca on.

BLACKTOWN: Crows, Shapley, Langan, Begbie off, Comerford, Gomez, Connolly, Bourke, Jee, McArdle, Rogers off, Abi-Arrage on, Sultana on.

HEIDELBERG United pulled off the surprise of the round of the National Youth League (Southern Division) when it held leader Melbourne Croatia to a no-scoring draw at Olympic Village.

Heidelberg played a close man-to-man marking game and Jim Ioannidis would not single out any of his heroes for special mention. "From one to eleven they played very well, even though we had to defend for much of the game."

East Richmond scored a fine 1-1 draw with second placed Altona Gate at Burnley Oval.

Dimitrios Daglaras put the home team ahead from the penalty spot, but Altona Gate equalised by the same route in the second half.

Marjan Tasevski scored.

Keeper Nick Kalamaras, Con Andrikopu-

los and Dimitrios Daglaras were the best on view for the home team, which played better as the game wore on.

Melbourne City JUST pulled out of its recent slump to beat South Melbourne Hellas Blue by three goals to nil at Schintler Reserve.

Hellas had much of the play in the first half and several good opportunities, but still went in three goals down as Zoran Ovuka, Robin Stankovski and Richard Cucanic scored for JUST.

The second half was more in JUST's favour but it could not add to its total.

A brilliant display of keeping by Harry Kamboukos could not save Clifton Hill from a three-nil loss to Sunshine George Cross at Skinner Reserve.

Gus Bregante returned to open the scoring for Georgie and Agim Sherifovski added two goals, before being sent off for a second bookable offence.

Sweeper, Chris Soukos was another who did well for Clifton Hill.

North Geelong went down at home 3-0 against Caulfield City.

John Didulica took over in goal, with Ivan Medved returning to his role in central defence, but Caulfield proved too experienced and scored through Peter Kapetanias, Engel Schmidt and Jim Psihogios.

North's leading scorer Adrian Cervinski had a nasty collision with a goal-post.

Geelong City were comprehensively defeated by South Melbourne Hellas White at Middle Park by twelve goals to nil.

City had to field a makeshift side after being denied the use of regular players and then lost captain, Michael Spasevski, who suffered a recurrence of an ankle injury after only two minutes of play.

Fifteen year old Richie O'Sullivan took his place.

The league's leading scorer, Con Boutisians, added five to his tally, which has now reached twenty-eight, while National League players Damian Mori and Michael Michalakopoulos weighed in with two and four goals respectively, the other came from Peter Nikolakopoulos.

City did play some skilful soccer in passages and had good attempts at goal by Cedo Rakic, Tony Bozinovski and Andrew Harns, but in the end it was overwhelmed.

RESULTS

Preston Makedonia bye, Heidelberg United 1 Melbourne Croatia 0, South Melbourne Hellas White 12 (Boutisians 5, Michalakopoulos 4, Mori 2, Nikolakopoulos) Geelong City 0, North Geelong 0 Caulfield City 3 (Kapetanias, Schmidt, Psihogios) East Richmond 1 (Daglar-

as) Altona Gate 1 (Tasevski) Sunshine George Cross 3 (Bregante, Sherifovski, 2) Clifton Hill 0 Melbourne City JUST 3 (Ovuka, Stankovski, Cucanic) South Melbourne Hellas Blue 0.

LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melb Croatia	19	15	3	1	62	16	33
Altona Gate	20	15	3	2	52	15	33
SMHW	22	14	4	4	64	20	32
Melb City JUST	21	10	5	6	56	40	25
Sunshine GC	20	10	4	6	43	36	24
Preston Mako	19	8	4	8	40	27	22
Geelong City	21	8	2	11	32	59	18
Heidelberg Uni	21	5	7	9	22	36	17
East Richmond	21	6	3	12	33	51	15
North Geelong	19	6	2	11	34	39	14
Caulfield City	19	3	5	11	21	35	11
SMHB	19	4	2	13	25	55	10
Clifton Hill	17	2	0	15	13	87	4

NSW POINTS

LEAGUE 4: Nineveh Eagles 2, Hajduk Rangers 2, SSC Zagreb 2, Concord Juniors 1, Arncliffe 1, Hawkesbury Dist 0, Rooley Hill Gunner 0, Belmore Hercules 0, Trasandinos 0, Colo Colo 0, Spanish Club 0, Croatia Syd Jrs 0.

GRADE 2: Spanish Club 2, Concord Juniors 2, Colo Colo 2, Hawkesbury Dist 0, Nineveh Eagles 0, Rooley Hill Gunner 0, Croatia Syd Jrs 0, Belmore Hercules 0, Trasandinos 0, SSC Zagreb 0, Hajduk Rangers 0, Arncliffe 0.

LEAGUE 5: Lithgow Workmen 2, Maccabi Hakoah 2, Macquarie Uni 1, West Dist Hellas 1, Sydney Uni 0, Prospect United 0, Ashour Star 0, Alexander 0, CSI Scholfields 0, GNS United 0, Sporting Peru 0, Chile Sports 0.

GRADE 2: West Dist Hellas 2, Lithgow Workmen 2, Sporting Peru 2, Sydney Uni 0, Prospect United 0, Ashour Star 0, Alexander 0, CSI Scholfields 0, GNS United 0, Maccabi Hakoah 0, Macquarie Uni 0, Chile Sports 0.

LEAGUE 6: St Josephs 2, Assyrian 2, Liverpool City 2, Penrith 2, Cobleloa 0, Page wood Bolany 0, New Welcome Sport 0, Abruzzi 0, Pontian Eagles 0, Balmam 0, Liverpool Olympic 0, Fogolar Furlan 0.

GRADE 2: Liverpool Olympic 2, Pontian Eagles 2, Balmam 2, St Joseph 1, Fogolar Furlan 1, Cobleloa 0, Page wood Bolany 0, New Welcome Sport 0, Abruzzi 0, Liverpool City 0, Penrith 0, Assyrian 0.

Arok's chase

KIRE Temcev, Preston's star attacking midfielder, is being chased by St George boss, Frank Arok.

Aged 23, Temcev arrived in Melbourne from Yugoslavia just three months ago but apparently has had problems settling in.

His display on Sunday caught Arok's eye.

Temcev not only starred in general play but also scored Preston's only goal with a 25 metre rocketing drive that flashed into John Filan's top corner like a guided missile.

Immediately after the St George vs Preston match Arok asked permission to approach Temcev regarding next season.

Temcev played in Division 2 of the Yugoslav League prior to his arrival in Australia.

— JOHN ECONOMOS

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South Dists in discount draw

BY PAUL GOODWIN

SOUTHERN Districts officials provided a discount for supporters at their restaged game with Granville-Chile last Wednesday night.

Although not obliged to do so, they cut the normal admission price from \$5 to \$3 for a game which attracted a healthy 312 spectators on a rainy night with the result ending at 1-1.

A most uninspiring first half was soon forgotten as Districts got into their full rhythm after the interval.

A becalmed Granville-Chile had no answer to the well-crafted home side's attacking moves and rarely posed a threat.

Nine minutes into the half, Radovan Filipovic took a short corner on the right. Following a sustained period of pressure, slipped the ball to Oscar Selik and the lofted ball into the box was headed past goalkeeper Cristian Gonzalez.

Within seconds of the restart Selik again found himself in possession and hit a low drive goalwards, catching Gonzalez by surprise. The ball landed in the goal.

But Selik's play was cut off by a cross which eventually was struck home from the edge of the box by Filipovic for number three after several players had worked their way into scoring positions.

In the last minute Mick Athury handled inside the area and John Gregson powerfully converted the penalty for the fourth while Granville had only one real chance in untidy backpass was intercepted by David Holmes, but he was unable to deliver a telling blow when he gained the ball.

On this performance Mike Johnson's side will be right up there at the end of the campaign, but the Chileans have a lot of work to do to regain former glories.

Waverley v Friday

night fixture against Petersham was a victim of the weather being called off at noon and after heavy overnight rain in the Gosford area. Central Coast's game with Gladesville-Hornsby went the same way.

Attempts will be made to restage both games as early as possible. If the wet conditions continue one can see the university despised Coral Sea Park once again being pressed into service.

Rosebery took until the 26th minute to subdue Orange Waratahs at Eric Smith Reserve, left back Mick Hingham finding the top corner with a 30 metre drive but the goals then started to flow.

Tom Heery tapped in a Paul Harriott pass in the 37th and Harriott finished off a cross from Jimmy Keane in the 41st.

Harriott tidily finished a long ball out of defence for number four and Ercan Osman showed all his indoor skills to end a solo run with the fifth.

Although Orange hit the bar and the post, it was not a vintage performance by the team. The only goal was scored by a player who was not in the team.

At the end of the game Vaso Despolovic and his Beluzic under a cloud before the start of their game with Manly, but when Wally Apapouris gave them the lead in the 19th minute things looked as good as over.

They soon surrendered their lead, however, when Liz Morosini got on the end of a Tony Gratwick cross from the left which had been flicked on by Mark Butler.

Morosini made it two in the 39th and in the second half Manly tore Yagapouris.

Substitute Gavin May scored his first goal for Manly in the 71st and Butler completed the scoring with a goal in the 88th from a Peter Filipovic cross. Manly unbeaten and looking for a win.



JOHN GREGSON

for some honours this year.

Yugal hopes to sign goalkeeper Rosario Pinto this week.

Dulwich Hill took the field against Fairfield City with Jim Ziras and Nello Borges only half fit and both players were eventually replaced, but not before they had each scored valuable goals.

Twice Dulwich took the lead from its own goal by Kevin Gaffney. Mark Butler and Peter Filipovic scored for Southern Districts.

Borges, Duarte and Con Stavropoulos all hit the post before the defender clinched it at Arlington, putting Dulwich Hill into a spot among the leaders.

Campbelltown and Granville-Chile had a close battle at Bendsley Road. Max Delichiasis kept himself to a brace of goals and the Vikings being denied several times by promoted Hans Hostel in the Granville goal.

David Holmes gave the Chileans a glimmer of hope with a goal in the 41st but following a free kick.

This is a much better Campbelltown side and they could have scored many more goals but for

who came into the side at the expense of Gonzalez following Wednesday's defeat.

Southern Districts managed to scrape home 1-0 over Mount Druitt, but have lost striker Ozan Selik with a broken collar bone and missed goalie Peter Berry, who suffered an eye injury on Wednesday night.

Lee Ullow got on the end of a Radovan Filipovic cross in the 15th minute to score the only goal of the match. Ullow's side has moved to the top of the table.

SECOND DIVISION

RESULTS

WAVERLEY v PETERSHAM postponed. 1. CENTRAL COAST v GLADESVILLE-HORNSBY postponed. 2. WACH HILL MADEIRA 3. Ziras Borges Gaffney FAIRFIELD CITY 2 (Gaffney o.g.) CAMPBELLTOWN VIKINGS 2 (Delichiasis 2) GRANVILLE CHILE 1 (Holmes) AUBURN YUGAL 1 (Apapouris) MANLY WARRINGAH 4 (Morosini 2, Maw Butler) SOUTHERN DISTRICTS 1 (Ullow) MOUNT DULWICH TOWN ROSEBERY PORTUGAL 5 (Hingham Heery Harriott 2, Ercan Osman) ORANGE WARATAHS 1 (Filipovic) match SOUTHERN DISTRICTS v Southern Districts v Granville-Chile 0.

LEADING SCORERS: D. J. Gaffney 3, Paul Petterson 3, Mark Butler 3, Oscar Selik 3, Vaso Despolovic 3, Max Delichiasis 2.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ments.

"It's a ridiculous situation that the last campaign for the Soccercoos ended a year ago and we still don't have a national coach. The time we've lost must be made up," he said.

"As soon as the applications close at the end of this week we will begin the selection process for the national post. It is also imperative that we appoint the coach for the Youth team which holds its qualifying rounds for the world championship in September."

Constantine was forced to cancel a meeting of the Commissioners because of the illness of Cilauro and the return to Brisbane of Brusasco and independent appointee Ron Archer.

But he has contacted Dr Bradley and plans a quick meeting this weekend to discuss progress and the timetable of the report into restructuring.

He added he was a firm supporter of the National League and that it should be truly national.

"Other codes have followed us but didn't make our mistakes and have left us behind. If our games are to become an international force, it will have to go full time."

Constantine has been a successful president of the NSW Federation for the past eight years but does not plan to vacate the position.

He will discuss the situation with the State executive before deciding on action he considers will be in the best interests of the State.

An emotional Brusasco, who had hoped for a second term as ASF leader, claimed politics had cost him the position.

"But I'm leaving Australian soccer in a far better financial state than when I took over two years ago. I hope the ASF will be prepared to make the decisions necessary following the Bradley report and don't stop where I left off."

"The future of the game must be sold to the Australian public and officials must get all nationalities to attend."

In addition, the NSL must become a true representative of all States otherwise we're kidding ourselves," he added.

chances were nullified by excellent goalkeeping.

It was not until the last 90 seconds of the match that the Fotoworld Swans scored through Steve Duval, who shot past the defence with Mario's keeper partially unsighted.

England uphill against the wind — Johnson

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

vel produces some of the most technically skilful soccer players on this planet. There has got to be something wrong there.

It is only the advent of the coloured Negro player (born of West Indies parentage) which has saved England from even further embarrassment than it currently experiences.

So why use England as the coaching model on which to build Australian soccer?

I played there professionally in every division of the Football League for 10 years, coached there and obtained a coaching badge there.

I knew when I was playing there that something was wrong with the football and now I know I was right.

On top of that the

clubs have never operated sufficiently to allow the England squad enough time to train and time to play in a season.

Yet I remain English and will back them for then in the World Cup, knowing that for the first time for a quarter of a century they do have some chance of winning it.

They need some luck early on to get them accustomed to the bigger pitches, the warmer climate, the greater making the greater technical skill of their opponents.

Given that they could go all the way.

There will be no team fitter, no team better organised, no team that will work harder and fight harder to the end.

And for once we will have some skill at our disposal too.

Let's hope that manager Bobby Robson is not frightened to use it.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from becoming a leading summer sport.

"Everything is there to establish the code and the Melbourne Croatia club."

"The game has national television coverage and is already well known."

"Both we and Melbourne Croatia consider that we should look to attracting people outside the Croatia community."

"There is nothing to stop 2,000 Australians, 2,000 British or 2,000 more people of any nationality coming out and supporting Melbourne Croatia."

"It is a proven fact that if you give people an event and the comfortable facilities to watch, they will come out."

"So that is our first aim — to get the club the best facilities it can to make it comfortable for people to watch."

The job of Victorian Sports Media is to convince major businesses to become involved in

soccer through the Melbourne Croatia club.

VSM will be assisting the club's bid to raise finance by arranging sponsorship and special promotions for the club.

"Our main aim is to inject funds into the club, with our initial goal to finance lights at Croatia's ground in the next few months," Rose told ASF.

VSM, contracted to Croatia for the next two years, says it believes the Melbourne club to be potentially the most powerful in the NSL, and, if marketed correctly, will attract the sponsorship dollars.

"The people at the club are still in the raw stages," says Rose.

"The committee is ambitious and hard-working, but at this point they have little expertise with the big-business community."

"We hope to change that in the next two years."

"Everything should be in place by next season and we already have several ventures well on the go."

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 1

Auburn Yugal	5 3 1 1 9 6 7
Rosebery	5 2 2 1 12 7 6
Campbelltown	5 2 2 1 11 10 6
Petersham	4 1 3 0 3 2 5
Central Coast	4 1 3 0 3 2 5
Gladesville Hby	4 0 2 2 5 9 2
Orange Waratahs	5 0 2 3 5 12 2
Granville Chile	5 1 0 4 5 13 2
Central Coast	4 0 1 3 2 7 1

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 1

Univ of NSW	1 1 0 0
Cyprus United	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Lennos Allstars	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
West Wanderers	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Bankstown	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
North Ryde RSL	1 0 0 1 1 2 0
Univ of NSW	1 0 0 1 1 2 0
Bathurst 75	1 0 0 1 0 1 0
Concordia	1 0 0 1 0 4 0

STATE LEAGUE 2 GR 2

Southern Dist	5 4 1 0 11 3 9
Rosebery	5 3 2 0 15 6 8
Dulwich Hill	5 3 1 1 11 2 7
Manly Warringah	5 2 2 1 14 11 5
Campbelltown	5 2 2 1 9 6 6
Granville Chile	5 2 2 1 6 4 6
Gladesville Hby	4 2 0 2 10 8 4
Waverley	4 1 1 2 9 6 3
Central Coast	4 1 1 2 7 9 3
Petersham	4 1 1 2 4 6 3
Fairfield City	5 1 0 4 2 10 2
Auburn Yugal	5 1 0 4 4 20 2
Orange Waratahs	5 0 1 4 3 15 1

STATE LEAGUE 3 GR 2

Univ of NSW	1 1 0 0 0 0 2
Canterbury & Dist	1 1 0 0 4 0 2
Hills United	1 1 0 0 2 1 2
Port Hacking	1 1 0 0 2 1 2
Cyprus United	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Lennos Allstars	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
West Wanderers	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Bankstown	0 0 0 0 0 0 0
North Ryde RSL	1 0 0 1 1 2 0
Univ of NSW	1 0 0 1 1 2 0
Bathurst 75	1 0 0 1 0 4 0
Concordia	0 0 1 0 0 0 0

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Canterbury's Greek again

Canterbury Marrickville Olympic has signed another Greek player from Panionios, George Kapouranis, 27, a midfielder who played for five years with Olympiakos before joining Panionios three years ago.

Kapouranis is an ex-Greek youth international, and will be an important asset for the NSW State League First Division club, which receives support by the Greek community in Sydney.

— MARIO ETCHART

Fotoworld Swans win

THE NSW Futsal Federation's premier league competition was won last Sunday night by the Fotoworld Swans who beat Mario's Boys 1-0.

The game was very closely contested from start to finish and it was not until the eighth minute of extra time that Fotoworld Swans' winning score was posted.

Whilst the game was tight on the scoreboard, there was plenty of action on the court.

Both teams were geared for a big effort with some fine skills being exhibited, but the



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Sydney Strikers U14 Futsal — back row l to r Brandon Robinson, Nicholas Jamsak, John Cavan. Front: Darin Smith, Paul Currao, Glen McGavigan.

THE Sydney Strikers Futsal team have added the winning of the NSW Youth League under 14s to their impressive list of credits.

They produced splendid ball skills and well disciplined game plans. In the last game of round 2 they defeated arch rivals White Eagles to capture the minor premiership for the second year in a row.

They downed West Sydney Swans 4-1 in their semi-final, whilst White Eagles went on to down the Red Devils.

The grand final was played in magnificent fashion with the Strikers taking the honours at 3-2 just a minute before fulltime.

Setback for soccer

BY NSW DIRECTOR OF COACHING
DAVID LEE

I wrote an article late last year: "Soccer is Terminally Ill".

That was incorrect! Soccer is dying!

As warned in my previous article with the inroads of basketball plus the massive campaign by rugby league and the 1989 wash-out, the exodus from soccer is no longer a leak but a major outflow.

Early indications from local associations (Blacktown and Granville) are that player registrations could be down 20% — for example two Castle Hill clubs have lost 200 players.

With the growth of basketball and now the massive promotion by rugby league there is an enormous influence on young people.

This is mainly due to the fact that development officers, operating under the Director of Coaching, cater for 30,000 juniors.

For soccer to compete in NSW we would theoretically need 125 full-time personnel.

Of course this is not possible, but we urgently need nine.

In a small town like Bellingen there are three new rugby league teams.

Coffs Harbour have lost 400 soccer players and Ballina 130.

In the Riverina there is a drop in player registrations.

Most of these are in the 12 to 17 age groups — vital to our game.

But let's not worry — with late registrations — the drop-out percentage might go down to 10% so it will be 10 years before we are in minor sport.

[Despite Mr Lee's viewpoint, NSW Amateur Federation president John Hedison believes that junior soccer will retain a huge advantage numerically over competitor sports in NSW.

He said: "There are some losses in a few areas, but we had anticipated this after having the 1989 season virtually lost out due to the weather problem."

"The services of Robbie Wheatley will enable us to improve our numbers and operation over the entire state for 1991."

Monaro juniors

OVER 600 juniors in grades from under 11 to 16 competed in Monaro Junior Soccer Club's Coca-Cola Bottlers Pre-Season Knockout.

The draw was held at the Marco Polo Club in Queanbeyan and the games staged on the Wright Park and High St grounds.

Finals have been set down for the Marco Polo ground next Sunday commencing at 9am.

Enthusiastic coaching show at the Woonona High School

SOCCER's national director of coaching Eddie Thomson said he is prepared to come back to Wollongong anytime after supervising a highly successful seminar at Woonona.

More than 80 senior and junior coaches attended the seminar at Woonona High School and 50 of them signed up with the newly-formed Illawarra Soccer Coaches Association.

Regional coaching director Chris James said yesterday Thomson was very impressed with the roll-up and the interest shown by local coaches.

"He said he would come here anytime to help improve the coaching standard in Illawarra," James said.

"I don't think Eddie really expected so many people to attend. The whole thing was an outstanding success and he will definitely be back late in April."

State coaching director David Lee will stage the next session for local coaches on April 9 at Woonona.

David Lee's topic will be "Improved technique in junior players."

The Illawarra Association aims to have 100 members by the time Thomson returns.

ISA president George Naylor said he was pleased with the number of premier league coaches who showed enough interest to turn up.

"In the past many of these coaches have boycotted such seminars and it was very pleasing to me that so many took part this time," Naylor said.

Chris James can be contacted on 02 527 1512 (H) or 02 533 1293 (B).

THE NSW Amateur Soccer Federation directors and development officer Robbie Wheatley are taking immediate steps to increase the flow of youngsters to soccer in NSW.

President John Hedison said: "There are cases where numbers are down but we expect to soon have Robbie Wheatley's report on methods to be used to make good our ground."

"As it stands we are far away ahead of other sports."

"Our losses can be partly attributed to the writing off of a deal of last season due to the unprecedented rain in Sydney."

Many big growth areas of Sydney have held up well, but in other districts there has been a drop in the number of children available.

"In St George we had losses, but a deal of that was due to some of our all age

teams reaching the stage where they had to hang up their boots.

"You still have to appreciate that we have huge numbers of players, whereas many rugby league districts such as North Sydney and St George are flat out to field 50 teams each, and they have had losses as well."

Mr Hedison also pointed out that amateur soccer must preserve its numbers so that the sport can be delivered at a reasonable cost.

He also disputed whether State Director David Lee would have his finger on the pulse of 1990 player numbers across the state.

State general manager Cec Bucello said that there were cases where associations found they were down in player numbers, but then made up ground.

"Blacktown was down 1,000 players. They then put in an aggressive campaign and made up the ground," he said.

"In this day and age we must recognise

there are many other sports and distractions.

"We will give leadership in future — it can't be just left to the traditional registration days and 3x3 advertisements in local papers."

Granville District

of youngsters who are required to play for their private schools, rather than for suburban clubs.

Mr Bucello added: "We are prepared to attack the problem."

"I didn't take over my job to witness any



John Hedison,

FA was well in numbers but made a recovery after a big promotion.

Ku-ring-gai's loss might partly be due to the increasing number

decrease in playing strength.

"Rest assured we won't allow any statements about setbacks to become self-fulfilling prophecies."

Currently the 22 players are:

Peter Moon, Colin McAusland, Erwin Jakubowski, Stephen Henry (Bomaderry), Tom Haythorhwaite, Greg Hammond, Andrew Dowling, Ante Milicic, John Perosh, Luke Casserley, Andrew Crews, Darren Ekin (Woy Woy), Chris Milijak, Derek Noffke, Derek Palmer, Peter Tskenis, Shane West (Bathurst), Shane Rojas, Ari Triantafyllou, Jorge Vazquez, Tony Allovic, Martin Beasley.

THE PAPER THAT PRINTS ALL YEAR

NSW under 16

THE NSW under 16 squad will be cut back to the final 16 players following a camp to be held at Valentine Park over Easter.

The players will be under the care of State Director David Lee, Vince Balzan, David Pratt and Oscar Gonzales, with John McDonald handling the goalkeeper department.

UMBRO YOUTH LEAGUE

ROUND 5 SUNDAY APRIL 1 DIVISION 1

		U13	U14	U15	U17
St George	v Nepean	8-1	2-1	4-1	2-1
Syd Olympic	v Bankstown				washout
APIA	v Sutherland	1-3	1-0	2-0	2-1
Syd Croatia	v Marrang	1-2	1-3	1-1	1-1
Blacktown City	v Melita	3-2	1-2	0-2	0-0
Canterbury	v Warrara				washout

Macarthur	v Stn Districts	5-0	1-1	7-2	0-3
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SUNDAY APRIL 1 DIVISION 2

Ku-ring-gai	v Pongia				washout
Canterbury	v Central Coast				washout
Warragah	v Rockdale				washout
Gladesville	v Blacktown				washout
Manly Warringah	v Avala	2-0	1-5	1-1	2-1
Fairfield City	v Stn & Eastern	1-1	0-2	1-7	3-4
Granville	v Stn Branch	2-3	0-6	4-1	0-5

Mitre Metro Representatives

Canterbury	v Stn Branch	1-2	4-1
Illawarra	v St George	1-2	1-0
Macarthur	v Granville	1-3	1-1
Bankstown	v Blacktown	3-4	3-0
Sutherland	v Stn Districts	2-1	0-0

MEXICO became the first country to twice host the World Cup finals in 1986 when Colombia pulled out less than a year before the event.

Mexico had done a good job in 1970 and despite early problems in the electronic field when communications broke down and the wrong telecasts beamed out, the 1986 Mundial was a success though crowds were smaller than 16 years earlier.

Defending champions Italy were not expected to repeat and it was generally thought that the title would go to South America.

It did, but Brazil, not Argentina, started as the favourites, with France, on the strength of their Olympic and European triumphs of 1984, also having many admirers.

And the entire Mexican nation fervently believed its team would go a long way, led by Real Madrid star Hugo Sanchez.

FIFA again adopted a new format. This time the first two in each group and the four best third-placed countries would advance to phase two, from which point on all games would be sudden-death.

Italy and Argentina were placed together in Group A and though neither particularly shone, both made it to the next round along with Bulgaria, one of the best third placed finishers.

South Korea, in the finals for the first time since 1954, were never outclassed and gained a point from the Eastern Europeans.

Group B was won by hosts Mexico, whose only convincing win was in the opener against Belgium.

Paraguay, not Belgium, finished second, the Europeans going through as one of the best third placed sides.

Iraq lost all three games, but all by the odd-goal only.

Group C was dominated by the USSR and France, who finished in that order, with the Soviets first on goal-difference after de-

molishing Hungary 6-0 while France only scraped through 1-0 against Canada, who failed to score a goal or win a point.

Brazil and Spain were never troubled in Group D where Northern Ireland and Algeria, the revelations of the 1982 World Cup, never reached the same heights.

Australian referee Chris Bambridge held world centre stage when he sensationally disallowed a Spanish 'goal' in Brazil's 1-0 win.

Group E was by far the toughest, with four teams of equal strength, on paper at least — Denmark, West Germany, Uruguay and Scotland.

And that's the order in which they finished.

Denmark were almost installed as World Cup favourites for the manner in which they dominated the group, winning all matches, scoring nine goals and conceding just one.

The Germans were second and Uruguay, despite a 6-1 hammering by the Danes, sneaked into phase two as the 'worst' of the four 'best' third placed teams in the preliminary groups.

England was another country that scraped through, along with Poland, from Group F which was sensationally won by Morocco, the only unbeaten team.

Portugal were a very disappointing last.

England appeared down and out but came back strongly in their final match to outclass Poland 3-0, but the Poles also went through as one of the best third placed countries.

In the second round phase, the sudden-death line-up was Mexico v Bulgaria, USSR v Belgium, Brazil v Poland, Argentina v Uruguay, France v Italy, Morocco v West Germany, England v Paraguay and Denmark v Spain.

There were two big upsets, caused by Belgium and Spain.

Belgium won a thriller in extra-time over the USSR where seven goals were scored and

HISTORY OF THE WORLD CUP (MEXICO 1986)

BY LOU GAUTIER



Diego Armando has every reason to be ecstatic: his immense talent won the 1986 World Cup for Argentina.

Denmark were trounced 5-1 by Spain, with Emilio Butragueno recording a hat-trick against an astonishingly naive Scandinavian defence.

The France v Italy tie had held much promise, but the defending champions were never in it. France comfortably winning 2-0.

Mexico sent their fans into a frenzy when they downed the inept Bulgarians, who have yet to win a match in the finals. 2-0, while West Germany made hard work of beating Morocco 1-0 with a last-minute freekick.

Brazil delighted their fans in Guadalajara by outclassing Poland 4-0 and Argentina, as always, had to tough it out to conquer South American rivals Uruguay 1-0.

Finally, England had little trouble accounting for Paraguay 3-0 to also make it into the quarter-finals.

The quarter-final pairings produced a sensational Brazil v France at Guadalajara which turned out to be

the best match by far of the series, and possibly one of the greatest World Cup ties of all time.

Both teams played at the peak of their awesome talents, with non-stop end to end action.

With the score at 1-1 Brazil's Zico had a penalty saved by French keeper Joel Bats and the match went into extra-time where Brazil were lucky not to have their goalkeeper sent off for a crude foul on Bruno Bellone who was heading towards the goal.

France exorcised its demons of the 1982 semi-final against West Germany by winning the penalty shoot-out this time.

Belgium continued as giant-killers by also winning a penalty shoot-out to knock Spain out despite vociferous crowd support for the Spaniards.

West Germany, too, had to rely on the dreaded shoot-out to oust Mexico in a mediocre match while Argentina sent England packing.

This match revolved around the one and only Diego Maradona, whose 'hand of God' goal put Argentina ahead 1-0 and whose second, truly an anthological goal, knocked the stuffing out of England, who had scored through John Barnes.

The semi-finals were somewhat anti-climatic.

France were flat after their marvellous game against Brazil. Though they dominated throughout, West German method and discipline triumphed — like in 1982.

The Germans won 2-0 to qualify for yet another World Cup final, and their oppo-

nents would be Argentina.

More Maradona magic against Belgium saw the South Americans win emphatically 2-0 against the tiring Europeans.

Fielding virtually a new team, France beat Belgium 4-2 after extra-time to win the third place play-off.

In the final, at Mexico City's Azteca Stadium, Argentina were quickly on top with goals by Luis Brown and Jorge Valdano, and midway through the second half appeared to be cruising to a second World Cup win.

But hitting their best form of the entire series, the never-say-die West Germans suddenly sprung to life with two quick goals from Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Rudi Voller to pull back at 2-2.

GROUP A		W GERMANY v SCOTLAND 2-1	
BULGARIA v ITALY	1-1	SCOTLAND v URUGUAY	0-0
ARGENTINA v S KOREA	3-1	DENMARK v W GERMANY	2-0
ITALY v ARGENTINA	1-1	POINTS	
S KOREA v BULGARIA	1-1	DENMARK	3 3 0 0 9 1 6
ARGENTINA v BULGARIA	2-0	W GERMANY	3 1 1 1 3 4 3
S KOREA v ITALY	2-3	URUGUAY	3 0 2 1 2 7 2
POINTS		SCOTLAND	3 0 1 2 1 3 1
ARGENTINA	1 2 1 0 6 2 5	GROUP F	
ITALY	3 1 2 0 5 4 4	MOROCCO v POLAND	0-0
BULGARIA	3 0 2 1 2 4 2	PORTUGAL v ENGLAND	1-0
S KOREA	3 0 1 2 4 7 1	ENGLAND v MOROCCO	0-0
GROUP B		POLAND v PORTUGAL	1-0
BELGIUM v MEXICO	1-2	ENGLAND v POLAND	3-0
PARAGUAY v IRAQ	1-0	PORTUGAL v MOROCCO	1-3
MEXICO v PARAGUAY	1-1	POINTS	
IRAQ v BELGIUM	1-2	MOROCCO	3 1 2 0 3 1 4
PARAGUAY v BELGIUM	2-2	ENGLAND	3 1 1 1 3 1 3
IRAQ v MEXICO	0-1	POLAND	3 1 1 1 3 3 3
POINTS		PORTUGAL	3 1 0 2 2 4 2
MEXICO	3 2 1 0 4 2 5	SECOND ROUND	
PARAGUAY	3 1 2 0 4 3 4	Knock-out phase comprising the top two teams from each group, plus the four best third-place teams.	
BELGIUM	3 1 1 1 5 5 4	MEXICO v BULGARIA	2-0
IRAQ	3 0 0 3 1 4 0	USSR v BELGIUM	3-4
GROUP C		(set, 90 mins 2-2)	
USSR v HUNGARY	6-0	BRAZIL v POLAND	4-0
CANADA v FRANCE	0-1	ARGENTINA v URUGUAY	1-0
FRANCE v USSR	1-1	FRANCE v ITALY	2-0
HUNGARY v CANADA	2-0	MOROCCO v W GERMANY	0-1
HUNGARY v FRANCE	0-3	ENGLAND v PARAGUAY	3-0
USSR v CANADA	2-0	DENMARK v SPAIN	1-5
POINTS		QTR-FINALS	
USSR	3 2 1 0 9 1 5	BRAZIL v FRANCE	1-1
FRANCE	3 2 1 0 5 1 5	(set 90 mins 1-1, France won 4-3 on penalties)	
HUNGARY	3 1 0 2 2 9 2	W GERMANY v MEXICO	0-0
CANADA	3 0 0 3 0 5 0	(set W Germany won 4-1 on penalties)	
GROUP D		ARGENTINA v ENGLAND	2-1
SPAIN v BRAZIL	0-1	SPAIN v BELGIUM	1-1
ALGERIA v N IRELAND	1-1	(set 90 mins 1-1, Belgium won 5-4 on penalties)	
N IRELAND v SPAIN	1-2	SEMI-FINALS	
BRAZIL v ALGERIA	1-0	ARGENTINA v BELGIUM	2-0
ALGERIA v SPAIN	0-3	FRANCE v W GERMANY	0-2
N IRELAND v BRAZIL	0-3	3RD PLACE GAME	
POINTS		FRANCE v BELGIUM	4-2
BRAZIL	3 3 0 0 5 0 6	FINAL	
SPAIN	3 2 0 1 5 2 4	ARGENTINA v WEST GERMANY	3-2
N IRELAND	3 0 1 2 2 6 1		
ALGERIA	3 0 1 2 1 5 1		
GROUP E			
URUGUAY v W GERMANY	1-1		
SCOTLAND v DENMARK	0-1		
DENMARK v URUGUAY	0-1		
ARGENTINA: Pumpido; Cuello, Olarticoechea, Ruggeri, Brown, Gusti, Burruchaga (Trobiani), Batista, Valdano, Maradona, Enrique.			
WEST GERMANY: Schumacher; Berthold, Briegel, Jakobs, Forster, Eder, Brehme, Matthaus, Alfons (Voller), Magath (Hoeness), Rummenigge.			
SCORERS: Argentina — Brown, Valdano, Burruchaga, W Germany — Rummenigge, Voller.			
LEADING SCORER: Unai (England) 6.			

Friendlies

Spain v Austria 2-3, USSR v Holland 2-1, England v Brazil 1-0, Poland v Yugoslavia 0-0, Hungary v France 1-3, Scotland v Argentina 1-0, Northern Ireland v Norway 2-3, East Germany v USA 3-2, Greece v Israel 2-1, Eire v Wales 1-0, Luxembourg v Iceland 1-2.

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STADIUM TICKETS GROUP DEPARTURES 26th MAY 2nd JUNE





JURGEN KLINSMANN: West Germany's speed merchant will relish playing his World Cup matches in front of his Milanese fans.

West Germany could make it a hat-trick

WEST GERMANY reached the World Cup finals for the 12th time and kept their proud record of never having failed to qualify (they did not compete in 1930 and 1950).

They are the only country who have played in five finals and won two titles.

They could make it a hat-trick, as Brazil and Italy have done, for according to a general consensus of opinion among European experts, this could be the most open tournament for a long time.

The West Germans will enjoy to a large degree almost home advantage.

Five members of their squad are playing for Italian clubs, among them captain Lothar Matthaus, midfielder Andreas Brehme and striker Jurgen Klinsmann, all with Inter in Milan where the West Germans are based to play their initial three group matches.

If the Germans win the group they would stay in Milan.

And should they succeed in Round 2, they will play their quarter-final also in Milan!

Thus, five successive matches beckon in the same huge stadium with massive support, from the Italians as well.

Team manager Franz Beckenbauer is handing over the reins after the World Cup to his former international team-mate Berti Vogts

and would obviously like to finish his managerial career on a high note.

He claims that his team is young and still developing, but in actual fact, of the 13 men (including the subs) who clinched qualification, seven were either 27 or over.

Four members of the squad played in the last World Cup final against Argentina — Matthaus, Brehme, Rudi Voller and Thomas Berthold.

Perhaps Beckenbauer is thinking of his midfield which does include younger players like Thomas Hassler (23), Hansi Dorfner (24) and Andy Moeller (22). A lot of responsibility rests on their shoulders.

The last West German World Cup side was better known for its grit, fighting spirit and physical commitment.

Now, at last the artists are taking over.

Certainly Hassler combines all the virtues of a top-class schemer: technically superb, speedy and a dangerous goal poucher.

Moeller too is a top class playmaker, with flair and imagination, who can decide a match.

His vision is quite remarkable in one so young and his free-kicks are prodigious.

Dorfner, as understudy to Matthaus, is noted for his clever passing and splendid understanding, though he lacks scoring power.

Not forgetting Pierre Littbarski, nearly 30, an

"old hand", still an ace dribbler, recently in top form and a great inspiration to the youngsters.

With regards to the defensive block, Kuiser Franz now has few reservations.

After trying out 16 different sweepers the man in possession is Bayern Munich's redoubtable captain Klaus Augenthaler, at 32 the oldest man in the squad.

His long-distance shooting is still as formidable as ever and if his legs carry him in Italy through the heat, then all will be well at the back.

In goal Bodo Illgner is still the No.1 despite some recent lapses at club level.

The media are clamouring for the inclusion of in-form Uli Stein (35), but he still hasn't made his peace with Beckenbauer after the row and his walk-out during the Mexico finals.

Up front, the vastly experienced Voller and the speed merchant Jurgen Klinsmann are the main hopes as lethal finishers.

But the most important and authoritative player is Matthaus, the captain, equally useful in defence as in attack; according to Beckenbauer "an indispensable" player.

Not a playmaker, but a strategist, like Paul Breitner used to be.

His dynamic charges, fulminating shooting and constant mobility over 90 minutes often

contribute to deciding a match.

It is assumed that the Germans will play with a sweeper behind two man markers and with five in midfield, plus two strikers.

The draw was kind to the West Germans who are expected to finish ahead of Yugoslavia, Colombia and the United Arab Emirates.

Beckenbauer himself is looking at least for a place in the last four.

— reprinted courtesy WORLD SOCCER

Raging Bull

WOLVES and England striker Steve Bull is worth \$4.5 million ... and that's official.

That's how much the raging Bull, who cost just \$138,000 when he joined Wolves from West Brom four years ago, has been insured for by the Second Division promotion chasers.

The insurance premium is an incredible \$85,000 a year, but that would be considered small change if Bull was forced to retire because of injury.

As Wolves supremo Tony Gallagher says: "It is just sensible business practice on our part."

ROMARIO RECOVERY

BRAZILIAN striker Romario, who broke his leg playing for Dutch champions PSV Eindhoven, is expected to make a return before the end of April.

"We are talking about possibly five or six weeks until he is back," the club's assistant trainer Hans Dorjee said.

The Brazilian international fractured a calf bone after scoring twice in PSV's 9-2 victory over Den Haag in a league match last month.

He is the Dutch First Division's top scorer with 23 goals this season.

Romario's plaster cast was taken off last Friday week and he is training at home on a cycling machine.

But he is still not allowed to walk and must use crutches, Dorjee said.

Brazilian



coach Sebastiao Lazaroni has said he planned to include Romario in his World Cup squad.

He would not be available for Brazil's opening match in the finals against Sweden on June 10, having being sent off in a qualifier against Chile last August.

FOREST'S SURPRISE

NOTTINGHAM Forest have emerged as surprise runners in the race for Hibs' highly-rated midfield ace John Collins.

Cloughie, who has just spent \$1.5 million on striker David Currie, from Barnsley, has been given the green light to dig even deeper into the coffers at the City Ground.

But Celtic remain favourites to capture the unsettled Easter Road star who started his career with Celtic Boys' Club.

Like Forest, Celtic have money to spend following the \$1.1 million sale of Roy Aitken to Newcastle. Now manager Billy McNeill could offer Hibs close on \$2 million plus Tommy Coyne or Peter Grant in part exchange.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



- West German Bundesliga side Hamburger SV have signed 23-year-old Flamengo striker Nando in a \$600,000 deal.
- Dynamo Kiev technical director Vladimir Veremeyev has been banned from all European competitions for five years. The UEFA have charged him with scuffling with the referee when the Soviets were eliminated by Fiorentina in an UEFA Cup match last November.
- Grasshoppers Zurich have bought a new goalkeeper — 28-year-old German Harald Kohr from Kaiserslautern.
- CONMEBOL, the South American Football Confederation, has vetoed the participation of Central and North American countries in the next Copa America.
- The Scottish FA has decided against a six-week championship winter break.
- Dutch international striker Wim Kieft has asked for a transfer after yet another row with his PSV Eindhoven coach Gus Hiddink.
- Peruvian club Alianza Lima have spent \$2 million rebuilding their team. Now, two years after the plane crash that decimated their side, they have signed Brazilian coach Amaral from Recife and are aiming at the 1990 title.
- Crack Chilean striker Jorge Aravena, who plays for Puebla in Mexico, underwent foot surgery in the United States and will be sidelined for at least three months.
- Valencia have renewed the contract of their coach, Victor Esparrago, until 1991.
- One of the greatest goalscorers of all time in Brazil has died at the early age of 48 — Antonio Ferreira (Toninho). He scored 976 goals in a 17-year-old career. Toninho won five Brazilian titles with Santos where he partnered Pele in attack.
- Rumour has it that eccentric Colombian goalkeeper Rene Higuita has signed a preliminary contract with AC Milan and will join the Italian club if he makes an impact at the World Cup finals.
- The United States will play Iceland in St Louis on April 8 after the Americans return from Europe where they will have met Hungary and Poland.
- Real Madrid's greatest-ever player, Alfredo Di Stefano, who was born in Argentina, is to be employed fulltime by the Spanish club as its official roving ambassador. He will also have a say in recruiting players.
- Frank Klopas, the American midfielder, has returned home after a stint with AEK Athens.
- Star Colombian defender Andres Escobar will play in Switzerland for Young Boys Berne next season.
- Diego Maradona's immensely less talented brother Hugo will leave his Spanish club, Rayo Vallecano, at the end of this season.
- Norway defeated South Korea's World Cup team 3-2 in a three-nation international tournament in Malta in which the local national side also participated. Saudi Arabia pulled out in the last moment.
- West German striker Wolfram Wuttke has left Kaiserslautern to join Espanol Barcelona.
- Morocco will definitely apply for the 1998 World Cup finals though the general consensus is that France has the series in the bag.
- The Italian Federation raised a few eyebrows when it decided to review the contract of national coach Azeglio Vicini only after the World Cup finals. His contract will, apparently, only be renewed if Italy achieves good results in this year's World Cup finals.
- Two more Soviet players will play in the West — CSKA Moscow's Krutov and Masatlin will join Vitesse of Holland.
- Spanish First Division strugglers Tenerife have sacked their coach Miera. New man in the hot seat is Javier Azcargota, who was at the helm of Valencia and Sevilla, and who for the past two years was a commentator on Spanish television.
- Portuguese First Division side Beira Mar, the team of Socceroo Vlado Bozinovski, has sacked its Belgian coach, Jean Thissen. His assistant, Victor Urbano, has taken over until the end of the season.
- Spain's World Cup players have been promised \$300,000 each if they win this year's title. They are on \$200,000 if they reach the semi-finals and \$135,000 if they make the quarter-finals.
- Argentinos Juniors have sacked their coach, Nito Veiga. He was replaced by Hector "Bambino" Veira, who until three weeks ago was at the helm of San Lorenzo.

Greed the motive in Europe

MIKE TICHER REPORTS

IT hardly seems possible to pick up a football paper these days without reading of a 'Super League' planned for somewhere, whether it is Victoria, Britain, or the whole of Europe.

The words seem to have a magical quality about them for administrators and journalists alike, although the actual proposals behind them may differ greatly.

The idea currently floating around for a European Super League proposes, so we are led to believe, a 16-team tournament made up of Europe's biggest (not necessarily most successful) clubs, which could possibly replace the UEFA Cup in the European calendar.

The prime mover behind it is Silvio Berlusconi, Chairman of Milan, supported by Marseille's Bernard Tapie.

The extensive television interests of both men would certainly benefit from such an arrangement.

In Britain at least, it often seems hard to analyse such ideas critically, without being accused of 'standing in the way of progress' or 'resisting the inevitable'.

However, the idea of such a Super League is so ill-conceived and potentially damaging that it deserves more than a knee-jerk reaction in favour, as seems to be the general response.



AC Milan players and officials celebrate with last year's European Champions' Cup, but the crack Italian club has now set its sight on a European "Super League."

seeks to restrict the spectacle of European football to a select few clubs.

The motive? Money, of course.

Not money which would benefit football in general, but money for those who already have it in abundance.

The problem with the current European competitions for the likes of Milan and Real Madrid, it seems, is the danger that they might meet each other in the early rounds, and thus not be certain of more than one enormous pay-day in that season.

The new format would guarantee them at least three home games against other big clubs.

It is hard to sympathise with the financial difficulties of such clubs, with their huge support and other associated commercial operations.

For a club such as Marseille, for exam-

possible participants (e.g. Glasgow Rangers and Internazionale), the competition could perhaps substitute for the success in conventional European competition which they have so conspicuously failed to achieve in recent years.

More importantly, the effect of a European Super League would be to debase utterly the European Cup and the other two current competitions.

What would remain would be two completely unsatisfactory events, one without the leading clubs, and one to which entry is reserved for those with the money, with no promotion and relegation.

From a British point of view, a less fair system could hardly be imagined.

In the past, the excitement of European competition has by no means been reserved for Liverpool, still less for Arsenal, the other proposed English representatives in the Super League.

A glance at the record books is enough to show that the contributions of clubs such as Nottingham Forest, Aston Villa, Ipswich and Tottenham in the late 1970s and early 80s was immense.

In Scotland, the same can be said for Aberdeen and Dundee United.

Are such clubs to be rewarded by representation in a sub-standard competition only?

Were it not for the ban on English clubs, Norwich City, Luton, Wimbledon and Coventry City would have been among those taking on the best in Europe, on merit.

It is clubs such as these, for whom European competition certainly would be a huge financial boost, who should be entitled to receive its benefits,

The purpose of European competition should be to provide a stage on which the largest possible number of teams from across the continent can meet.

By excluding the middle-ranking Western European teams, not to mention the whole of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, Berlusconi and the others show that they have no real understanding of the broad attraction of the current tournaments.

While it may be a drag for Milan to play against teams from Malta or Albania or Iceland in the early rounds, for the teams from those countries and many others, the thrill of even being on the same pitch is irreplaceable.

The incentive for those at all levels of football is the chance to make progress by playing against your betters, until you are as respected as they are.

That applies as much to clubs such as PSV and Napoli (winners of just one Italian championship in their history), now regarded as Super League material, as it does to the minnows of European competition.

To cut off the chances of any team aspiring to such heights would be like saying to Australia that they can compete in the World Cup, but if they get to the finals, Brazil, Italy, West Germany, Argentina, Holland and the Soviet Union will not be there!

The principle of permanent exclusivity on the basis of wealth (or even of talent) is one which should be resisted at all levels of football.

The game changes, good teams come and go, no-one stays at the top forever.

That is part of the beauty of the game.



Juan Moya of Spain's Valladolid in action against Atletico Madrid.

Maradona fines upheld

FINES totalling \$5,200.00 imposed against Diego Maradona by Italian champions Napoli for missing two training sessions have been upheld.

The Italian League's disciplinary committee said it had ratified two fines against the Argentine World Cup captain.

The first was imposed when Maradona failed to turn up for a training session on



December 29 before a match against Lazio.

The second was before an Italian Cup game on January 23 against Fiorentina.

Earlier this season

the disciplinary committee fined Maradona for criticising the refereeing of a league match and saying the World Cup draw was rigged.



AC Milan boss Silvio Berlusconi with the 1989 European Super Cup trophy.

What is the purpose behind the suggestion?

It is not a visionary proposal as the European Cup and before that the World Cup were, designed to extend the boundaries of football competition.

On the contrary, it

ple, who recently paid \$9 million for one player (Chris Waddle) to plead poverty is stretching the credibility to extremes.

Substitution

For them and other clubs mentioned as

PARREIRA JOINS UAE

BRAZILIAN Carlos Alberto Parreira, sacked only recently as national coach of Saudi Arabia despite an outstanding record in his four years there, was not long out of work.

Parreira has been appointed supremo of the neighbouring United Arab Emirates' World Cup team, replacing Pole Bernard Blaut, who only lasted three weeks after taking



over from Mario Zagalo.

Parreira coached

Kuwait to a World Cup finals berth in Spain in 1982.

Brazil, Argentina go down

BY MARIO ETCHART

England reached a polemic 1-0 victory over Brazil in a friendly international played at Wembley Stadium.

The result was strongly criticised by the Brazilian media and national coach Sebastiao Lazaroni.

Midway through the second half, Brazilian striker Muller beat replacement goalkeeper Chris Woods but his final shot was cleared from behind the line by England defender Stewart Pearce. German referee Klaus Deschel ignored the Brazilian protests and allowed the match to continue.

The replay later revealed the referee made a gross mistake and showed the claims from the South American players were justified.

England went ahead in the 35th minute when striker Gary Lineker scored with a header. It was Lineker's 30th international appearance for the England team.

Veteran goalkeeper Peter Shilton suffered a severe knock after only 10 minutes and was replaced by Woods who made a brilliant save in the 40th minute from a 40 metres Branco free kick.

A brilliant goal by defender Stewart McKim-

mie helped Scotland defeat world champion Argentina 1-0 in a friendly international in Glasgow.

More than 50,000 fans celebrated the victory over an Argentina squad without its star captain Diego Maradona.

This was the eighth match for the South Americans without a win and without scoring a goal.

Argentina's coach, the enigmatic Carlos Salvador Bilardo, was a very disappointed man.

Libertadore Cup

Uruguayan runner-up Defensor Sporting defeated Venezuelan Pepeganga de Margarita 1-0 in Group 4 of the Libertadores Cup.

Defensor's poor showing so far in the group kept fans away from the game. Despite Pepeganga's defeat, the Venezuelan runner-up almost assured its pass to the Cup second round.

In Group 1, Ecuadorian champion Barcelona defeated Bolivian runner-up Oriente Petrolero 2-1 in a dramatic encounter at Barcelona's stadium in Guayaquil.

Bolivian midfielder Perez had briefly level-

led the score in the 77th minute and two minutes later another Bolivian goal was disallowed by the referee for offside.

Although the Ecuadorians dominated the park for most of the first half, Oriente Petrolero was never outclassed by the locals.

Paraguayan champion Olimpia, thanks to a goal scored three minutes before the end of the match by midfielder Jorge Guasch, beat Brazilian Gremio of Porto Alegre 1-0 in Asuncion's Defensores del Chaco stadium in the Libertadores Cup Group 5.

The 28,000 local fans left the stadium disappointed with Olimpia's performance and some of them missed the only goal scored almost at the end of the game.

The Brazilians dominated the first 30 minutes of play and only relinquished control of the midfield in the second half.

But Olimpia's inability to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Brazilian defence worked against their chances to reach a better result.

The other two teams in the group are Vasco Da Gama and Cerro Porteno.

ENGLAND and Scotland last week shook the world of soccer with surprise victories in friendly matches against South American World Cup giants, Brazil and Argentina.

Were these results any guide for us on what to expect from the two British sides next June in Italia '90?

Can England actually win the World Cup, a feat achieved only once before by Sir Alf Ramsey's lads 24 years ago?

With super-star strikers like Gary Lineker and Peter Beardsley hitting top form and spearheading England's attack plus the backing of in-form wide midfielders, Chris Waddle and John Barnes, the Englishmen cannot be ignored.

England's mercurial skipper, Bryan Robson, has already made a comeback in Manchester United's midfield after his recent operation and is looking good.

England has lately threaded 15 consecutive outings without defeat.

Sir Alf's 1966 squad just prior to the World Cup had put together 19

consecutive internationals without defeat.

Are those facts symbolic of England's fate in the coming World Cup finals?

Another nation which has largely been ignored by tipsters is the Soviet Union which won the last Olympic gold medal in Korea.

Did they not end up second only to the spectacular and colourful eventual champions, Holland, in the last European Nations' Championship in 1988?

Who will be the overall super-star player of the World Cup series which Diego Maradona unquestionably answered in 1986 in Mexico when he almost single-handedly won the trophy for Argentina?

These are just a few of the questions that will soon be answered during the forthcoming World Cup in Italy.

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THURSDAY, 5TH JULY
Option 1 Full day tour to Florence with lunch at leisure and dinner at Orvieto
Option 2 Shuttle buses to centre of Rome
Dinner at Quattro Fiumi and Trestatini restaurants in Piazza Navona

FRIDAY, 6TH JULY
Free day
Shuttle buses to centre of Rome
Gala dinner at Castella Di Bracciano
SATURDAY, 7TH JULY
Option 1 Tour of Sixtine Chapel and Catacombs
Option 2 Shuttle Buses to centre of Rome
Roman banquet at The Sheraton
SUNDAY, 8TH JULY
Free morning
Mass at St. Peter's
Late lunch barbecue at The Sheraton
MONDAY, 9TH JULY
Departure

100 Other prizes of Size 5 Kookaburra Cosmos Deluxe Soccer Balls.
See over for details. **COMPETITION CLOSING 13TH APRIL 1990**

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- There is no limit to the number of entries. However, each entry must be on an official entry form and contain the correct Gillette pack.
- Any entry that does not comply with these conditions of entry shall not be a valid entry. Information on how to enter and prizes forms part of these conditions of entry.
- All entrants must be residents of Australia and a member or supporter of a soccer club/association in Australia. To be eligible, each entrant must nominate the name and address of their soccer club/association. Employees and their immediate families of Gillette (Aust) Pty Limited, their associated companies, advertising and sales promotions agencies are not eligible to enter or to receive any prizes.
- Prize draw will take place in Sydney on Monday 16th April, 1990. The entrant named in the first valid entry drawn will win a 10 day holiday for 2 to Italy. Prize consists of economy airfares for 2 from the state capital nearest the winner to Italy and return, meals, 7 nights luxury accommodation, airport transfers in Italy, organised sight-seeing events, double tickets to the soccer semi-final in Naples and the final in Rome, and tips in Italy. Personal expenses such as passports, visas, insurance, health requirements, spending money and all other ancillary costs are the responsibility of the winner. Travel prize valued at approximately \$14,332. Entrants named in the next 100 valid entries drawn will each win a Size 5 Kookaburra Cosmos Deluxe Soccer Ball. RRP \$29.95 each.
- The winning entrant's soccer club will receive a cheque for \$3,000. In the event that the club is located in Queensland, the prize will be awarded as gold bullion to the nearest value in the absolute discretion of the promoter.
- Travel prize must be taken between July 1st, 1990 and July 10th, 1990.
- All winners will be notified by mail and the first prize winner's name will be published in the Public Notices column of The Australian on Friday 27th April, 1990.
- Prizes are not transferable or exchangeable and cannot be taken as cash.
- The judges decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. No responsibility for lost or misdirected mail will be accepted by the promoter. Gillette (Aust) Pty Limited, of 504-520 Princes Highway, Hobbie Park, Victoria, 3174.
- NSW Permit No 1C89/3485
Raffles and Bingo Permits Board No 89/2398 issued on 30/11/89
ACT Permit No 1P89/1393 issued under the Lotteries Ordinance Act, 1984. NT 0537/89

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Simply fill out your name and address below and attach a bar code from any Gillette Blade, Razor or Disposable shaver pack to the entry form and send to:
Gillette 'The Best a Man Can Get-Italia '90 Kick Off'
Soccer Clubs Competition
PO Box 23
North Lidcombe NSW 2141
South Australian residents need not purchase the product to enter but may instead send in a hand drawn facsimile of any Gillette Blade, Razor or Disposable shaver pack. Only one entry per person permitted by this method in South Australia.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Name of Soccer Club/Association _____
Address of Soccer Club/Association _____
Postcode _____

COMPETITION CLOSING 13TH APRIL 1990

GWS/ASW